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MONDAY

Blair and Clinton in Ulster appeal

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND MARTIN FLETCHER

MP's leaked letter to Downing Street shows efforts to sway Unionist dissidents before peace referendum

something in Northern Ireland the other was unhappy.

Mr Clinton underlined his previous warning that Sinn Fein would become outcasts if they returned to violence, but he also held out the chance of increased investment in Northern Ireland if the deal was endorsed.

The President said it could be a "win-win" situation for both sides. "Think about where the world is going to be in 12 years. You will have a much more globalised economy. You will have Britain and Ireland more involved in the European economy. All of us have hope and fear inside. I think on election day the clear-headedness of the people will prevail in Northern Ireland."

Leaked letter, page 2

TONY BLAIR and President Clinton yesterday combined forces in an effort to rescue the Good Friday peace accord with a warning that Northern Ireland faced a future of conflict, frustration and economic decline if Unionists voted No in Friday's referendum.

The two leaders issued an impassioned appeal for support as a letter leaked to *The Times* exposed the remarkable lengths to which the Prime Minister has gone to woo Unionist dissidents before the vote. With polls showing Unionists tilting against the accord, there is intense concern that the Government's greatest achievement could unravel.

Stewart last Monday by Jeffrey Donaldson, the young Lagan Valley MP. It contained proposals for ensuring Sinn Fein could not hold ministerial posts, and IRA prisoners could not be released, until the republican movement's commitment to non-violence had been firmly established. Mr Donaldson is a key figure because he, more than any other politician, represents the "soft No" vote. The speech Mr Blair delivered in Belfast three days later incorporated chunks of his letter — including most of the proposals — almost verbatim. The MP still refused to back the deal, saying the speech contained "ambiguities and omissions".

some of frenetic political activity this week. Mr Blair is to make his third visit in two weeks on Wednesday. William Hague and Paddy Ashdown are planning visits, and *The Times* has learned that the pop group Ash will stage a free concert tomorrow night in an attempt to woo the youth vote.

contrast between a "rich and good life" if people supported the accord and the prospect of people being "frustrated, distrustful, angry and little bit left out" if they did not.

In another attempt to reassure worried Unionists yesterday, Mr Blair also gave his strongest commitment that legislation coming before Parliament to implement the agreement will require the IRA to give up arms before terrorists are released early and Sinn Fein can sit on Northern Ireland's new executive body. He made plain for the first time that would also apply to the "shadow assembly" which will come into being this summer.

Speaking at a press conference at the end of the Group of Eight summit in Birmingham, Mr Blair declared: "There will not be people taking their seats in the Northern Ireland executive, nor will there be an accelerated prison release programme, unless it is clear that violence has been given up for good. I cannot make it any clearer than that."

Cook calls in QC for swift arms inquiry

BY MICHAEL EVANS, JILL SHERMAN AND SAM KILEY

A FORMER Permanent Secretary at the Lord Chancellor's Department is to head an immediate Foreign Office investigation into the arms-to-Africa affair. His report, expected within weeks, will be made public.

The appointment of Sir Thomas Legg QC, 62, who was the top civil servant at the Lord Chancellor's Department until March, is expected to be announced by Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, in the Commons today.

The Government wishes to bring the affair to a swift conclusion after serious embarrassments since it became public two weeks ago.

Whitehall sources confirmed that Customs and Excise had finished its investigation and had recommended no further action against Sandline International, which delivered arms to Sierra Leone.

Although Sir Thomas will be appointed as an independent arbiter, Mr Cook has already said that, after examining all relevant papers, he has found no evidence that Foreign Office staff colluded with Sandline to break a United Nations arms embargo against Sierra Leone.

Sir Thomas will examine the same papers and will be in a position to decide what officials knew of Sandline's plans and whether Mr Cook and Tony Lloyd, the Foreign Office Minister responsible for Africa, had been sent the documents.

Customs and Excise investigators began their inquiry into a possible breach of the UN arms embargo in March and have now sent a "progress

report" to John Morris, the Attorney-General. However, Customs has effectively finished its investigation and has recommended that Sandline, run by Lieutenant-Colonel Tim Spicer, a former Scots Guard officer, should not be prosecuted, despite concluding that the company broke the embargo.

Customs, which normally pursues its own cases without reference to the Attorney-General, decided that a prosecution would probably fail in court because of the apparent confusion over whether the UN embargo was aimed only at the illegal military junta, which seized power from the elected President Kabbah in Sierra Leone in May last year.

Sandline delivered 35 tonnes of arms in February to the Nigerian-led West African force, Ecomog, at Lungi in Sierra Leone, prior to the military operation which led to the overthrow of the junta.

Fresh claims were made yesterday that the Foreign Office and Ministry of Defence had been kept "fully informed" of plans to send arms to the exiled President of Sierra Leone. According to a senior diplomatic source in Pretoria, detailed progress reports were sent by British officials in Conakry, capital of Guinea, where Peter Penfold, the High Commissioner, based himself after the military coup.

The diplomat said that the MoD's Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS) was among the Whitehall departments "in the know". Although there were difficulties with secure communications in Conakry, the diplomat said that Mr Penfold used the diplomatic bag, carried by a Queen's messenger, to keep the Foreign Office informed about the proposed Sandline arms deal.

The diplomat also insisted that the High Commissioner had been able on occasions to send reports "electronically" and had transmitted details about Sandline to London in December last year and again in January.

The Commons will be debating the arms-to-Africa affair today.

Letters, page 23



Cherie Blair and Kumiko Hashimoto, the wife of the Japanese Prime Minister, release balloons to start a 5-mile fun run at the end of the G8 conference in Birmingham. Pages 14, 15

Cabinet backs move to make pre-nuptial contracts legal

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

PLANS to make American-style pre-nuptial contracts between couples legally binding have been approved by Cabinet ministers.

Pre-nuptial contracts — which may cover division of assets through to expectations of role-sharing within a marriage — are widely used in Europe and the United States but they are not legally enforceable in Britain.

The Prime Minister's family policy group has endorsed the principle of pre-nuptial contracts and officials are working out how soon legislation could be brought forward.

One option is to include the reform as part of a Modernisation of Justice Bill which the Lord Chancellor hopes to have included in the autumn legislative programme. An alternative is to make the change as part of the wider Government strategy on the family generally, involving more than one department.

Geoff Hoon, parliamentary secretary at the Lord Chancellor's Department, said that a team was examining how pre-

nuptial or pre-marital contracts worked in other jurisdictions where they are widely used. "The merits of these are that they provide an extra power which helps to avoid litigation. If such agreements are enforced, then there is no need for argument over weeks and weeks over who owns what. So it puts an end to many cases going to court and the possibility of conflict, which must be good for both parties."



"My client would like to propose to you"

He added that it was sensible for people in general terms to have some idea of how they would divide their assets in the event that the marriage broke down.

However, he emphasised that how such agreements worked would depend crucially on the exceptions that were allowed for.

"In countries where they are used, there have to be fairly wide powers to escape from them — in particular where it appears women have been pressed into agreements and then found later on that the circumstances were not as they thought."

The idea had been well-received among ministers, he said, but cautioned that the Government had a "crowded legislative programme".

Mr Hoon first floated the idea of pre-nuptial contracts in February at the Solicitors' Family Law Association conference. They would not be compulsory and courts would remain the final arbiter where there was any dispute over them. Family law solicitors

Microsoft faces Government row

Microsoft will face legal actions from the US Justice Department after talks to avert anti-trust actions broke down over the weekend. Bill Gates' software group is to ship its Windows 98 software to computer manufacturers in defiance of the Justice Department, which has promised the most profound anti-trust action in decades. Page 52

Andrew leads Newcastle to top

Newcastle won rugby union's Premiership at the Stoop Memorial Ground, beating Harlequins 44-20 to secure the title by one point from Saracens. Rob Andrew, the former England fly half and now the Newcastle director of rugby, scored 19 points. Page 19

Pakistan ready for nuclear test

Pakistan is to carry out an underground nuclear test in response to the five nuclear explosions by India last week, the Government announced. The question was "when, not if" the test would be conducted in the desert province of Baluchistan. Page 15



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'Riviera jewel thief' had Prince's stolen gold

BY RICHARD OWEN AND STEWART TENDLER

ITALIAN police yesterday said they had recovered valuables said to have been stolen from the Prince of Wales by the man dubbed "the Riviera jewel thief".

The haul, which includes five gold tiepins, six gold buttons, two watches, five sets of cufflinks and two silver boxes, was recovered from the flat of Renato Rinino, Scotland Yard last

night said it expected to send detectives to Genoa where Rinino, 35, is serving a prison sentence for theft. The Yard's organised crime branch originally investigated the break-in at St James's Palace.

The Italian police said the items had an estimated value of £40,000 "quite apart from their sentimental value to the Prince".

The find comes six months after Rinino, who has a string of convictions for burglary on the Italian

Riviera, boasted of stealing items and letters belonging to Prince Charles.

He told police through his lawyer, Alessandro Garassini, that his exploits included a burglary at St James's Palace in 1994, during which he had stolen cufflinks, gold tiepins, watches, brooches and silver boxes. He realised only later that they were from the Prince's private apartments.

Rinino was dismissed at the time as a boaster and fantasist, and a search of his council flat in Savona revealed

nothing. But police said that last week he told them where the hiding place was in his kitchen.

The Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera* yesterday said Rinino had written to the Prince "asking for his forgiveness". The paper said his motive was to "establish his credibility", and he apparently had "more up his sleeve". Signor Garassini said Rinino wanted to "meet the Prince and sell his exclusive story to the British newspapers".

ms, ow.

Teenager leaves house open to party riot

A COUPLE enjoyed their foreign holiday with their teenage son. Then they came home and found that youths had staged a riotous five-day party in their £250,000 house — gaining access with a key supplied by their son.

The youths had drunk the champagne cellar, stolen Armani clothes and wrecked a BMW. They also took jewellery, computers, photographic and audio equipment, destroyed furniture, smashed a mirror, knocked doors from their hinges and covered the carpets with vomit and urine.

Yesterday, as three youths were starting sentences at detention centres, Christopher Carr, 15, no

Claudia Joseph on a family's return to a nightmare — and why the son no longer has a front-door key

longer had a key to the family home in Hale, Cheshire, and his own movements were being restricted. His father, Nigel, a footwear agent, said: "It was one of those teenage things. He didn't know anything was going to come of it. We have restricted his going out and stopped allowing him to have a key."

The trouble began after Christopher was pressured into giving his doorkey to another youth. Under duress, he also revealed the security code to Mark Aides, 15, before he went on holiday to Tunisia last

October with his parents. Dozens of teenagers, some with criminal records, then converged on the Victorian property. Three took the family's BMW for a spin at speeds of up to 120mph around nearby Altrincham. They drove the grey £20,000 automatic as if it had a manual gearbox. When it broke down after four miles they stole the stereo before dumping it with £1,800 damage outside a tram station at Brooklands. The three then took a Ford Escort belonging to a local newspaper journalist to make their way to Reddish. When

Nigel and Lorraine Carr returned home with their son they discovered £5,260 damage and goods worth £4,800 missing. The details emerged on Friday at Manchester Crown Court at the trial of three youths.

Mark Griffiths, 20, from Reddish, and Darren Marks, 18, from Flixton, were sentenced to 16 months in a young offenders' institution after pleading guilty to burglary, taking vehicles without consent and having no car insurance. Griffiths also admitted driving while disqualified. Marks

admitted attempted deception. David Cronin, 17, from Sale, was detained for six months after admitting burglary, taking vehicles without authority and having no insurance.

Several other youths, including Aides, were arrested and subsequently interviewed by the police but were never prosecuted. Mr Carr, 42, who was insured for the damage and theft, said: "Those lads got what they deserved. What they did was completely ruined what was a memorable holiday. Luckily my brother had been

alerted by neighbours and had cleaned up much of the house by the time we had got home. But it was still a shocking scene. We were completely distraught at the time but it was last October. You have to forget about it."

The court was told that Christopher had handed over the keys after being cajoled by Aides. Roger Brown, prosecuting, said: "Mr Carr was going on a family holiday when his 15-year-old son appears to have been spoken to by Aides. Young Aides seems to have cajoled Mr Carr's son into giving

him the keys to the house and also its security arrangements. Once the family had gone on holiday Aides visited the house. Then it became known among a number of youths that this was effectively an open house."

Benjamin Myers, for Griffiths, said: "This party had been raging for a number of days when my client became involved. There were many people at that house, most of whom are not before the court. But he accepts this is really appalling behaviour and appalling damage to the property. The sympathy of the court and just about everybody must rest with those who live at the house."

Homecoming of two halves as joy turns to violence

By JOHN O'LEARY

A RAUCOUS red and white tide yesterday shattered the peace of the North London suburb that has become a byword for trendy new Labour intellectualism.

More than 200,000 football supporters converged on Islington Town Hall to welcome the Arsenal team, which completed football's league and cup "double" at Wembley on Saturday. The celebrations marked the climax to a street party that had barely stopped since the FA Cup Final ended 18 hours earlier.

Fans perched on every available vantage point, some even had to be removed from the roofs of ambulances,

which were treating a steady stream of victims of the crush and the heat.

Later, however, riot police were called in when drunken thugs were seen throwing bottles at police, attacking a police vehicle and jumping on top of fire engines. Two cars were burnt out. There were 38 arrests. One man who was arrested is being treated for a fractured skull.

But the local people said true Arsenal fans had tried to reason with a violent 20-strong gang. Paul Mohan, 45, landlord of the Woodbine pub in Blackstock Road, said: "I saw one grandfather with his granddaughter in the middle of the road trying to stop them throwing bottles at the police."

Hearts, winners of the Scottish Cup, also received a heroes' welcome as they paraded the trophy through the streets of Edinburgh. The players, management and officials toured the capital on an open-top double-decker bus, cheered on by an estimated 50,000 fans.

At a council reception, the players toasted their success with champagne — a tribute to the French stars who helped Hearts to win. Stephane Adam and Giles Rousset.



Arsenal supporters crane to get a view of their team, which completed the league and cup double on Saturday. True fans were not responsible for violence, onlookers said

TOURISTS HURT

An Irishman attacked six British tourists in a bar in Aberdeen, Scotland, at the end of the FA Cup Final, police said yesterday. The man was said to have pulled out a kitchen knife and slashed the men, who had watched Saturday's game on television. They have not been named. Two were still in hospital yesterday. A man was arrested.

France's leading strikers take aim at the World Cup

Ben Macintyre on how pilots and truckers are teamed up for action

AIRLINE pilots have become the latest French workers threatening to bring transport mayhem to the World Cup by striking next month.

Pilots at Air France announced they would strike next Sunday and Monday, and continue their action during the football tournament, which begins on June 10, unless the management backs down on a plan to cut salaries by 15 per cent in return for share options. Already, police chiefs are drawing up plans to deal with possible protests by lorry drivers and rail workers, as well as farmers, fairground staff and even some disgruntled police officers.

British hauliers have appealed to the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, to save EU legislation aimed at prevent-

ing French lorry drivers blockading the World Cup. Stephen Norris, director general of the Road Haulage Association, wants the Government to use its influence to ensure that an EU Council regulation to make member states clear blockades or face stiff fines is not vetoed. Some countries are reportedly planning to oppose the new rule enabling the EC to intervene on obstacles to trade, due to be debated today.

The independent train drivers' union, representing almost one third of all drivers, plans strikes on June 16, 17 and 18. On Saturday, the militant lorry drivers' union

Force Ouvrière voted for strike action "in the latter part of May and early June" over wage talks. In London Dan Hodges, spokesman for the Road Haulage Association, said: "Unless urgent action is taken, the most dangerous strikers this summer won't be Shearer and Owen, but the French lorry drivers."

The French transport ministry has appealed for an industrial truce: "We call on all unions to show a sense of responsibility and not to tarnish the reputation of France at a time when the whole world will be watching us."

Immigrants demanding res-

idence papers, unemployment action groups and teachers are among others believed to be planning protests to coincide with the tournament. Agricultural unions are also a potential threat, with negotiations over the Common Agricultural Policy opening at the start of June.

Workers at the Foire du Trône fair outside Paris are plan protests from May 26 in a campaign about its removal to another location, affecting some 3,000 jobs.

One of the French police unions has already made plans for demonstrations by off-duty members, and officers stationed near the Stade de France in northern Paris are demanding extra pay for the additional work they will do in the course of the competition.

Boys are on target for exams

By DAVID CHARTER

A TEAM of young footballers from Liverpool has won the right to sit their GCSEs while on tour rather than cancel a soccer trip to Italy.

In the spirit of Bill Shankly, the Liverpool manager who considered football more important than life or death, the 18-strong squad was determined not to miss the chance to play in a leading Italian stadium. The boys from the Blue Coat School this morning take their English Literature GCSE at a Bologna hotel.

On Friday, they sat their examination in Spanish Listening in a hotel room at Heathrow. "It's a highly unusual arrangement but we have been in consultation with the exam board, who are quite happy," John Reece, head of PE at Blue Coat, said.

The situation has arisen because of the remarkable success of the under-16s. The team hold the Liverpool Cup, the Merseyside Cup and the English School Cup. By winning the Goodyear Channel 4 Trophy, they won the chance to play a Bologna team.

Curtain rises on plan for theatre

By RACHEL KELLY, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

A LONDON theatre that has languished largely unused for 15 years may be transformed with a glass-covered 150-seat restaurant and landscaped garden.

The proposed improvements to the Roundhouse in Camden — a cult venue where Jimi Hendrix and The Doors performed in the 1960s — is the latest addition to a £20 million plan to turn the former engine shed into a television, radio and recording studios set around large and small theatre spaces.

The architects, John McAslan & Partners, want to

make use of land outside the building. The plans will be unveiled at a launch hosted by English Heritage, which is keen to show how problematic listed buildings can find new uses. The Roundhouse, which is Grade II*, will be included on a new register of listed buildings at risk.

The philanthropist Torquil Norman owns the Roundhouse through a charitable trust, but problems remain over land now used as a car park and owned by Metropolitan Police Estate. Camden council is broadly in favour of Mr Norman's plans.



Roundhouse on register of listed buildings at risk

End of the sunny spell predicted

By A CORRESPONDENT

TEMPERATURES of up to 24C (75F) had day trippers heading for the coast yesterday but forecasters believe the hot spell will be over by the middle of the week.

Not all of Britain enjoyed the sun yesterday. Westerly winds forced parts of the east coast of England to 16C (61F), while Scotland's east coast had dull and gloomy weather, below 11C (52F).

The National Weather Centre said temperatures would remain high until Wednesday, when a cooler front from Scotland would see a return to a seasonal average of 17C (63F), accompanied by showers as the Bank Holiday weekend approaches. A spokesman said that while temperatures were above average for the time of year, no records had been broken.

As temperatures in Dartmoor reached 29C (85F) yesterday, more than 400 teenagers pulled out of the annual Ten Tors trek, many of them with heat exhaustion.

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The students on course for a big disappointment

Clearing system for university places can lead to serious regrets later, reports John O'Leary

ALMOST one in three students securing university places through the last-minute clearing system regrets their choice within four terms, according to a survey of students.

About 48,000 students find higher-education places in the four weeks after A-level results are published. That is almost one in six of those starting courses each year. Universities spend millions advertising vacancies and running advice services for those who missed the grades demanded for their favoured courses and are seeking alternative places through clearing.

However research carried out for ECCTIS 2000, a student careers service, shows a much higher level of dissatisfaction among those admitted through clearing than among undergraduates who took the conventional route. More than 30 per cent of entrants through clearing said they wished they had made a different choice of course or university, compared with 22 per cent overall.

Only 29 per cent of students interviewed 14 months after entry were completely satisfied. As the most disenchanted are likely to have dropped out during their first year, the researchers conclude that the

Clearing system for university places can lead to serious regrets later, reports John O'Leary

true level of dissatisfaction must be higher.

Up to 250,000 undergraduates a year may wish they had made different choices, according to the researchers: "This is clearly an unacceptable level of disappointment and to a great extent a waste of public and private money."

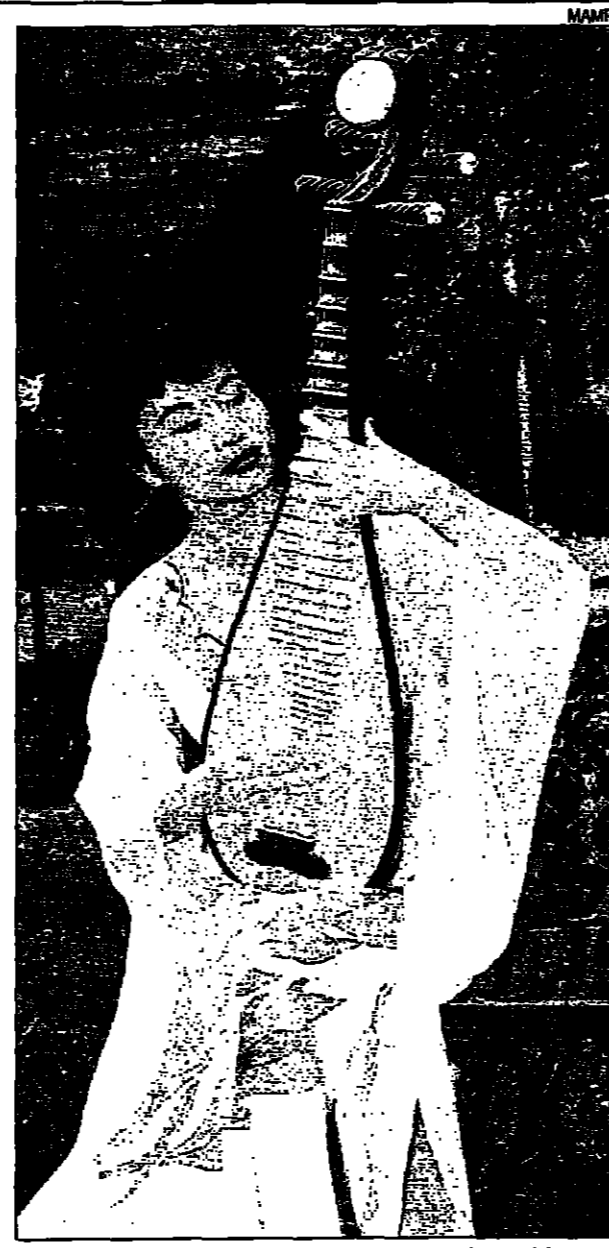
The key to satisfaction is not the actual experience of the undergraduate once at university but the level at which expectations are set, according to the 80-page report, which will be presented to a conference in September. Undergraduates in the former polytechnics were more likely to regret their choice than their counterparts in the traditional universities. The researchers conclude that sixth-formers considering an offer

from a new university need to ensure that the course, location, accommodation and social life will meet expectations.

Chris West, the chief executive of ECCTIS, said the research would enable the service to provide more relevant information to sixth-formers, especially on likely career. "The report underlines the importance of good quality research before applying to university," he said. "You can avoid clearing all together if you make realistic choices in the first place."

Anthony McClaran, deputy chief executive of the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, acknowledged that students admitted through clearing were more likely to be dissatisfied but the service's research showed that drop-out rates were no higher. He said: "Since students usually go through clearing because they haven't achieved the grades they needed for the course they originally wanted, it is only natural that some will dwell on what might have been. But it was encouraging to find that they were no more likely to drop out."

"In some ways, clearing achieves the best match of people to courses because everyone has to be realistic."



Yang Jing is to play for villagers in Shropshire

Musical journey from one hall to another

By A CORRESPONDENT

YANG JING is accustomed to making \$3,000-a-night appearances at the world's most famous concert halls. Audiences at Carnegie Hall in New York, London's Barbican Centre and the Golden Hall in Vienna have appreciated her skills with the pipa, a traditional Chinese instrument.

The 30-year-old is now adding the hall in Cheswardine, Shropshire, to her list after agreeing to a charity concert to help villagers in their efforts to restore the venue.

Yang, who has flown from Beijing for next week's concert, is staying with her friend Peter Bloxham and his wife, Sheila. Mr Bloxham, a fan of Oriental music, met Yang backstage at a concert during a business trip to China three years ago. When told of the efforts to restore the hall by 2000, Yang offered her services.

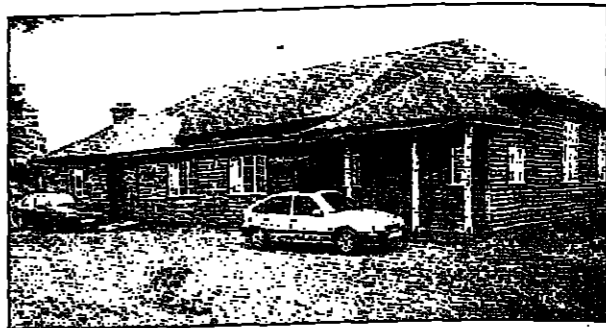
Yang said: "Usually I stay in big hotels in big cities where everything is fast and busy, so it is wonderful to stay in such a small place where everyone has time to talk with you and to be so nice."

"I am delighted to be able to help out."

"I usually get \$3,000 a concert and play either on my own or with the National Traditional Orchestra of China in the world's best concert



Carnegie Hall in New York, above, where Yang has played, and below, Cheswardine village hall



field and is internationally acclaimed. It is wonderful she will be playing here in Cheswardine."

Jane Moore, who is heading the fundraising campaign, said they would be offering a Chinese supper at the concert to create an "original atmosphere".

She added: "We are extremely lucky to be able to host such an event with a world-renowned musician. It should be a sell-out."

Yang, who is from the Henan Province, joined the Chinese orchestra in 1986 as a pipa soloist. Mr Bloxham said: "She is the top in her

Breeder may face action over dogs' death

By TIM JONES

A LEADING dog breeder who lost ten of her Newfoundlands through heat stroke as she left with them to begin a new life with another man could face prosecution.

Phyllis Colgan, 51, hired a winchless van to take her pedigree dogs from her home in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, while her husband, John, 52, was playing golf. But on one of the hottest days of the year the van got stuck in heavy traffic on its 130-mile journey to Alan Parker's home in Matlock, Derbyshire.

RSPCA inspectors called to a service station on the M1 on Friday found seven of the 12-stone dogs and puppies had died in agony. Another died shortly afterwards and two others had to be put down.

Mrs Colgan was transporting some of the 31 dogs in her own air-conditioned van and had hired the other van, driven by her son-in-law. The dead dogs included Elle May, believed to be the top Newfoundland bitch in Britain, and valued at £10,000. Mr Colgan did not discover until the next day that his wife had left. The couple had been married for 33 years and had two children.

He said: "She told me what had happened to the dogs. She sounded utterly destroyed and devastated, almost suicidal. She lived for those dogs and loved them more than anything else."

Mr Colgan, a Newfoundland show judge, said he and his wife had become friendly with Mr Parker, an amateur breeder. They had sympathised with Mr Parker when his wife left him last year.

Carol Daley, secretary of the Newfoundland Club, said that Newfoundlands were particularly susceptible to heat because of their heavy coats. The RSPCA said: "We may well decide to prosecute if there is sufficient evidence."

Appeal for blood as safety levels fall

By A CORRESPONDENT

HALF of Britain's blood banks are running at below recommended levels with three of the six centres failing to meet their own "safe" limit, according to a survey.

Supplies of O positive, the most common blood type used by half of all hospital patients and in emergencies, are almost 30 per cent below the target level in England. Heads of the Blood Services claim demand for blood from hospitals was outstripping supply, leaving the service finely balanced.

Within just 24 hours supplies can be significantly depleted if there is a major accident or a patient has to undergo a serious operation.

One of the greatest concerns, however, is the availability of the eight different blood groups. Blood co-ordinators have made an urgent plea for more blood donors to come forward, especially leading up to next weekend's Bank Holiday, when supplies are always low.

Sue Cunningham, of the National Blood Service, said: "The total number of blood units is recovering but it is Group O that is the problem. In England there are 3,778 units of O blood when we would like to have 5,000."

The survey, carried out on Friday, coincided with the Government's announcement to extend the age range of blood donors from 18 to 65 to 17 to 70. It disclosed that blood stocks in England were slightly above the 15,000 threshold at 15,388. The previous day stocks fell below the target at 14,082.

In London, the South East and in the northern region stocks were below the regional target. But Ms Cunningham said that was not a cause for concern because when stocks fell below minimum levels, blood was transferred from another area of the country.

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FROM DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT, IN CANNES

ONE of Britain's leading film-makers is creating its own community of producers, directors and technicians making low-budget movies of high quality — just as they did at Ealing Studios between the 1930s and 1950s, when they produced classics such as *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, *Simon Relph*, 58, the producer whose movies include

The Ploughman's Lunch, *Secret Rapture and Damage*, hopes to open the studios by September of next year. BBC Films, Channel Four Films, Lord Putnam, the producer, and Stephen Frears, the director, are among those backing him, excited by a studio system that could halve the cost of making films and stimulate creativity. Mr

Relph, vice-chairman of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, said he had vivid memories of Ealing Studios because his father worked there as a designer and producer on movies including *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, *The Blue Lamp* and *The Captive Heart*. "I remember the extraordinary atmosphere created by a group employed to make movies," he said.

There will be four directors, four writers, two producers and a full crew in a staff of about 70 on 18-month or two-year contracts. It will have its own cameras, lights, post-production equipment and transport and be dedicated to making first or second films for much lower prices than can be achieved in the freelance world. "It will offer film-makers a degree of certainty about their employment that will allow them to concentrate on their work."

His inspiration is Michael Balcon, who headed Ealing Studios during its golden era from the 1930s. Lacking the fi-



Simon Relph, who believes he can halve the cost of making a film while stimulating its makers' creativity

ancial resources of the American industry, Balcon dedicated the studio's energies to scripts with strong characterisation and drama, often with a social conscience. "He was the king," Mr Relph said.

The born-again studios will be at Freshford Mill, a few miles from Bath. "It is an ideal space because it is away from any roads and external noise and because it is very beautiful and that can be an inspiration for creative work."

Although the start-up costs are about £7 million, in the long-run the studios will keep the costs of film-making down: the average budget of one of their feature films will be £1 million. Mr Relph explained: "I became very conscious of the fact that a low-budget film is no longer low budget. Even a fairly modest film is going to cost £2 million." He said the cost of technicians, equipment and location "have gone crazy", with shoots costing

about £250,000 a week. Even with a six-day week, film-makers rarely have more than five or six weeks to make a film: that, he said, meant the quality suffered.

Recalling the early 1960s, when he first joined the industry, he said films were made for a price recoverable from British exhibition and cinema on its own. He believes savings can be made by employing people on annual contracts to produce four films and six

shorts one after another. He said: "I am trying to improve the quantity and quality and getting a film for less money." The humour of Laurel and Hardy has been revived 47 years after the comedians were last on screen. *The All New Adventures of Laurel & Hardy - For Love or Mummy* was launched in Cannes yesterday.

Brighton festival, pages 19, 20
Cannes films, page 21

Writers get £1m ticket to cinema

By Jason Nisiss

A BUDDING British screenwriter will see his or her script transferred to cinema screens thanks to a £1 million initiative to be unveiled today at Cannes.

The project — backed by Orange, the mobile phone group, and Pathé, the independent film-maker — will be announced by Chris Smith, the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. The two-stage prize will take a script idea and turn it into a new British feature film.

Undiscovered writers will be invited to enter scripts of up to 120 pages that can be turned into a film of at least 90 minutes. These will be considered for three £10,000 prizes from Orange. Entrants will get an expert analysis of their script.

The three winners and up to nine other shortlisted scripts will go forward for the Pathé Production Prize. Three of those scripts will be developed for film, and one will be made into a film. Two new talent organisations, The First Film Foundation and The Script Factory, will help in this process.

Orange and Pathé Distribution — which has been behind such films as *The Fifth Element* and *Shane Meadows' feature debut TwentyFourSeven* — are to earmark up to £1 million to turn the winning script into a feature. Pathé will distribute the film and Odeon cinemas has agreed to participate.

"We want to open up the competition to anybody with a dream and a word processor," Alexis Lloyd, managing director of Pathé Pictures, said.

Hans Snook, managing director of Orange, said he hoped that the project might encourage other companies to put money into British films.



Inspirational: Ealing's *The Lavender Hill Mob*

Aids scare makes pornography industry play it safe

By DALYA ALBERGE

A CRISIS in the £4 billion pornography industry has coincided with the return of sex-film awards at Cannes. A leading male performer has been diagnosed as HIV positive and producers are arguing that their films should set an example and show only safe sex.

Yesterday in the waterfront cafés some producers were insistent that in future they would not allow their stars to perform unless they wear a condom. Others say that audiences would not appreciate the change but Steven Vlotto of Wicked Pictures said that the industry had no alternative but to risk losing its audience rather than its actors. The newly diagnosed performer has

had thousands of partners in his career, Mr Vlotto said. If the campaign succeeded, audiences would have to get used to male full-frontals with a subtle addition.

Pornography now plays an increasingly prominent role at the Cannes Film Festival. The Palme d'Or is mirrored by the Hot d'Or award, which was absent last year but has returned by popular demand. A cruise ship devoted to adult pleasures sails into port next week. Many pornography production companies exhibit in the main festival building and at some of the most expensive hotels in town.

At a hastily arranged safe-sex summit in Los Angeles before the

BAG IT AND BIN IT

Sewerage systems are struggling to cope with up to 100 million condoms being flushed down the lavatory each year, a new report claims. Many end up in rivers or washed on to beaches, threatening wildlife and posing a health hazard to children. More than 40 per cent of people who use condoms prefer to flush them away rather than dispose of them in bins, according to the National Bag It and Bin It campaign, which aims to reduce levels of sewage debris fouling public places. The findings were released as part of National Condom Week, which ended yesterday.

festival, one leading producer called for a campaign that would be "the sex industry's equivalent of installing seat belts and air bags". While makers of homosexual sex films have required condom use for the past decade, producers of

heterosexual movies have largely resisted, relying on tests even after the death of one star from Aids in 1988.

A German film producer, Claudia Ottmar of Metro, who has made such "classics" as the adult

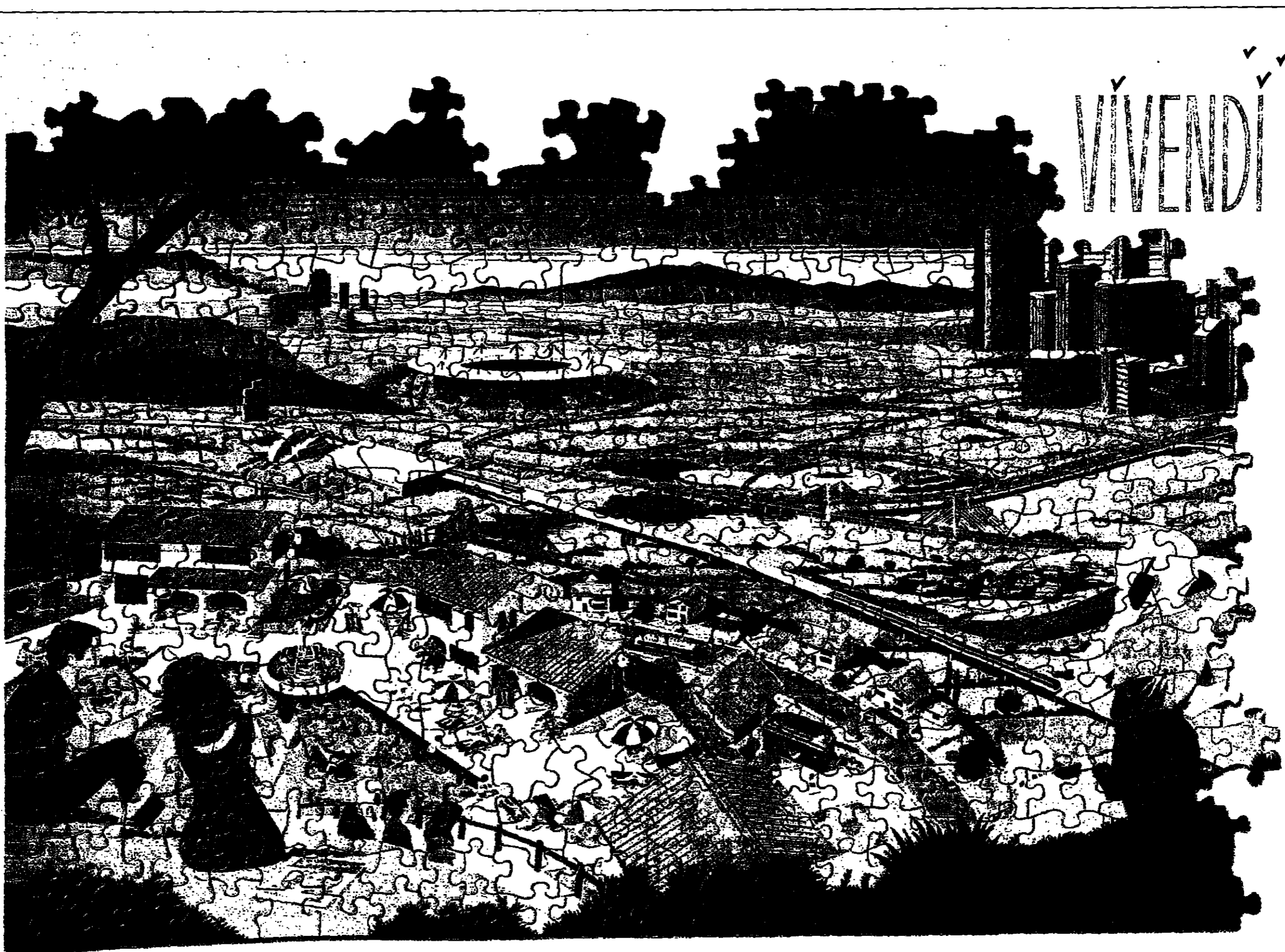
version of *The Dirty Dozen*, said that they had introduced condom-only sex because of the scare. She fears that audiences will fall but argues that her leading ladies are not suicidal, so the precautions need to be mandatory. Her actresses can earn up to £10,000 a film and the industry is worth more than £4 billion a year.

As well as trying to present a more responsible image, the porn film-makers are also in Cannes to dispel the myth that their only customers are the dirty-mac brigade.

Ms Ottmar said some of her more avid customers were doctors and professors, who would surely welcome her more healthy approach to film-making.



Misty Rain, a porn actress, at the festival yesterday



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Lock up your candles, churches told

NEWS IN BRIEF
Access to dentists widened

FOUR churches a week are the target of an arson attack, causing an average of £45,000 damage to each. As protection against fires grows in business, schools and the home, churches are increasingly seen as "soft targets" by arsonists.

The attackers' aim is usually to steal religious artefacts, but they then use fire to cover their tracks, often with the aid of candles or lawn-mower fuel that has been left lying around.

Other arsonists start fires in churches simply through vandalism, but in at least one recent case, occult practices are thought to have been behind an arson attack.

In many cases the culprits are children or vagrants. The latter

A rise in arson attacks has prompted urgent advice to clergy, reports Ruth Gledhill

usually break in to seek shelter and start fires, sometimes accidentally after drinking sprees.

The figures, released this week by the Arson Prevention Bureau, provide further evidence that churches are no longer considered sacrosanct in an increasingly secular society.

Thefts and other attacks on churches have risen by 50 per cent in the past eight years. Insurance on Church of England buildings costs the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group, which covers most of them, £5 million a year. In total, attacks on churches across all denominations cost insurers more than £10 million

last year. But while theft and other types of vandalism constitute most of the 17 attacks a day on churches in Britain, arson accounts for nearly half the insurance costs. In one recent case, a 17-year-old unemployed girl broke in to steal then set fire to songbooks in a meeting hall of an historic church to wipe out her fingerprints. The meeting hall and most of the church were destroyed, causing £650,000 damage. When she gave herself up to police two months later, she asked for 42 other offences to be taken into account.

After a fire causing £90,000 damage to another ancient church,

a 13-year-old boy in the care of social services and living with foster parents claimed that he lit a candle to look for kittens in the church.

One of London's most beautiful Victorian churches was left a smouldering shell after the interior was destroyed by a fire begun deliberately. The restoration programme cost £2 million. The 21-year-old man charged with arson was also found to be responsible for fires at churches in Dover, Canterbury and a neighbouring London church.

On the edge of Dartmoor, a 12th-century church that had been the victim of frequent attacks by van-

dals was largely destroyed by a fire started by an intruder. One theory is that people involved in occult practices were responsible.

And in another case, 25 people escaped from a first-floor meeting room after a fire broke out at ground level in the church.

Even if vandals are apprehended, the consequences can be serious. One church deacon was stabbed by a 15-year-old, one of three youths he discovered on the premises with theft or vandalism in mind. Tony Baker, chief executive of the Arson Prevention Bureau, which is backed by the Home Office and the Associ-

ation of British Insurers, said: "With many places of worship having little or no security equipment, and religious articles of high value on display, they are particularly vulnerable to thieves and arson attacks."

The bureau today publishes an arson prevention guide, with a points system to help churches assess their vulnerability to attack.

"A great many big and expensive fires are started by children," a spokesman said. "Windows providing easy access should be examined with a view to giving them greater protection, such as wire grilles and metal bars. Candles should be locked away, so should communion wine."

Schemes to improve access to NHS dentistry and levels of oral health have been announced by the Government. Projects will include drop-in services so that patients do not need to be registered with an NHS dentist to receive treatment, introducing more flexibility to the way dentists are paid and promoting good oral health in schools.

The 15 pilot schemes, which will share £600,000, will involve more than 150 NHS dentists in England.

Burial charges

David Turner, 54, a funeral director from Thetford, has been charged with criminal offences after Sheila Gent, who should have been buried in a churchyard in Fulmeston, was cremated by mistake and another woman buried in her plot.

Pilot dies in crash

A pilot died when the light aircraft he was flying crashed near Andrewsfield airfield, a spokeswoman for Essex Police said. The man, who was not being identified until relatives had been informed, was certified dead at the scene.

£20m jackpot

A guaranteed minimum "superdraw" jackpot of £20 million will be the prize in the National Lottery on Saturday. It will be the ninth superdraw since the lottery was launched in 1995; the last was in December.

Flower power

English hanging baskets are to be displayed in Red Square, Amberol, a company that employs 12 people in Alfreton, Derbyshire, won a contract to supply 1,000 of its £34.50 baskets to Moscow after a civic official saw its displays in Cambridge.

Happy ending

An usherette came to the rescue of cinema-goers at the ABC in Luton when a power cut deprived them of the end of the romantic comedy *Sliding Doors*. They stayed seated while Sam Lajewski, 23, who has seen the film many times, described the denouement.

Canon says Church must reject bishop

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

A SENIOR canon of St Paul's Cathedral sharply criticised a liberal Anglican bishop from the pulpit yesterday. Canon Michael Seward, treasurer of St Paul's, said the credibility of the Anglican Church was being challenged by the Right Rev John Spong, the Bishop of Newark, New Jersey.

It is rare for an Anglican cleric openly to attack a senior bishop, and even more so to use a pulpit such as that of St Paul's, widely regarded as a mother church of the Anglican Communion, to do so. That Canon Seward has spoken out in such terms against Bishop Spong indicates the concern in the Church at his views. Conservative evangelicals have already urged the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, to ban Bishop Spong from this summer's Lambeth conference, the ten-yearly meeting of leaders of the Anglican church worldwide.

The latest dispute follows Bishop Spong's open denial of nearly every traditional Christian belief. In a list of 12 theses posted on the Internet, Bishop Spong rejects belief in God, says Christianity is bankrupt, dismisses the virgin birth and New Testament miracles, describes the idea that Christ died sacrificially to save the world as "barbarian", and

says the biblical account of creation is nonsense.

Canon Seward, preaching at Evensong, said that Christians had spent centuries arguing about the Creed, and some churches had expelled those who denied its teachings. "The Anglican Church, in particular, is wisely cautious about heavy-handed discipline," he said. "Nevertheless, a church's credibility is severely strained if it permits its teachers, its clergy and especially its bishops to deny the core of its beliefs publicly and without challenge."

It would be easy, he said, to dismiss the latest pronouncements of the bishop, who has also called for a revision of the Church's teaching on homosexuality, as "only Spong at it again". But, he added: "Remember, the man is a bishop and has been for almost 20 years. He isn't a young, naive hothead."

He said that Bishop Spong "plays the card of accusing those who reject his theses as people who suffer from religious hysteria," and urged the conference to ignore everything the bishop said. "They must leave him in no doubt that he has gone far beyond anything which is acceptable in the teaching and ministry of a bishop."



Father Maddock: hopes series will win converts

Real-life Father Teds bare their souls for TV series

By Claudia Joseph

TWO Roman Catholic priests who live together like the stars of the Channel 4 sitcom *Father Ted* are the subject of the latest television fly-on-the-wall documentary.

Fathers Gerry Proctor and Grant Maddock allowed cameras to film inside their church in one of Liverpool's busiest parishes after getting approval from the congregation. The story of *St Margaret Mary's*, a six-part series, begins on May 31.

Like the fictional Father Ted and Father Dougal, the two priests have a



Father Proctor reflecting in church: some Catholics will like what they see and some won't, he said

parish secretary called Mrs Doyle — in this case Sheila — to help them. But the documentary is expected to raise some serious ecumenical issues.

Father Proctor, 46, who joined St Margaret Mary's in 1991 after six years in Latin America, said they were very close to the Anglican Church.

"Some Catholics will like what they see and some won't," he said.

"Father Maddock wears a clerical collar and I don't. We don't always play things by the book. We try to respond in an open way to parish dilemmas."

Father Maddock, 25, who was

ordained two years ago, said: "It's hard enough being a priest without having a camera crew following you around. I hope it encourages people to think there's more to church."

The cameras follow the priests from parish meetings to church musical. Viewers will see them officiate at christenings, weddings and funerals, minister to an order of Carmelite nuns and run a credit union.

They will also watch them counsel a young couple, Lisa and Graeme Dixon, as they watch Lisa's mother Linda Atkinson tried for the murder of her father George.

The series was made against a backdrop of declining congregations. About 1.1 million Catholics attend church each week in England and Wales but numbers are declining by around 50,000 a year. The priests, who were contacted by Granada last summer, said that they had consulted their 6,500 parishioners about the series by asking for a show of hands in church.

The popular documentary genre, which originated in 1974 with *The Family*, was revived two years ago with a study of the Royal Opera House, which led to *Hotel and Driving School*.

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Empire's forgotten children strike back

AS CHILDREN, they were sent from British slums to the far corners of Empire to repopulate those areas with "pure white stock". Too young to know where they were going or what would happen to them, they were part of a muddle-headed experiment that ran from 1880 until as recently as 1967.

It is only now, as adults, that some are returning to tell their shameful story to a Government that has finally decided to address the issue of the child migrants. In what promises to be an emotionally charged inquiry, the Commons health committee will this week take evidence from those who were suddenly deported from children's homes in Britain to the English-speaking New World.

MPs will consider offering a rescue package designed to relieve their hardship and emotional distress: many of the children were told their parents were dead, while their families were led to believe that they had been adopted in Britain.

When they arrived at their new homes most of the children

Britain's former child migrants come home to tell a harrowing story, reports Alexandra Frean

worked on farms or in domestic service on very little pay. Some suffered a life of physical, mental and sexual abuse. The lucky ones found hope, health and new opportunities.

The Commons inquiry, the first official investigation in Britain into the trafficking of children, will be seeking to establish what role the Government should play in seeking to assist the former child migrants, or "home children", to deal with what happened and establish contact with surviving relations in Britain. Previous governments have argued that the receiving countries should take responsibility.

David Hinchcliffe, the Labour MP for Wakefield who is chairing the committee, said former child migrants faced a host of problems. Some who had returned to Britain had

discovered on retirement that they were not entitled to a state benefit because they had not paid any national insurance contributions here.

Many have found that they are virtually stateless, having been refused passports from both Britain and the country to which they were sent. Others have had problems tracing their families back in Britain because of the travel costs involved and because some official records have been difficult to trace.

Mr Hinchcliffe said that many of them simply wanted to discover why they had been sent away in the first place. "This is very powerful stuff. The injustice of it all is bound to emerge. These people want to know who they really are," he said.

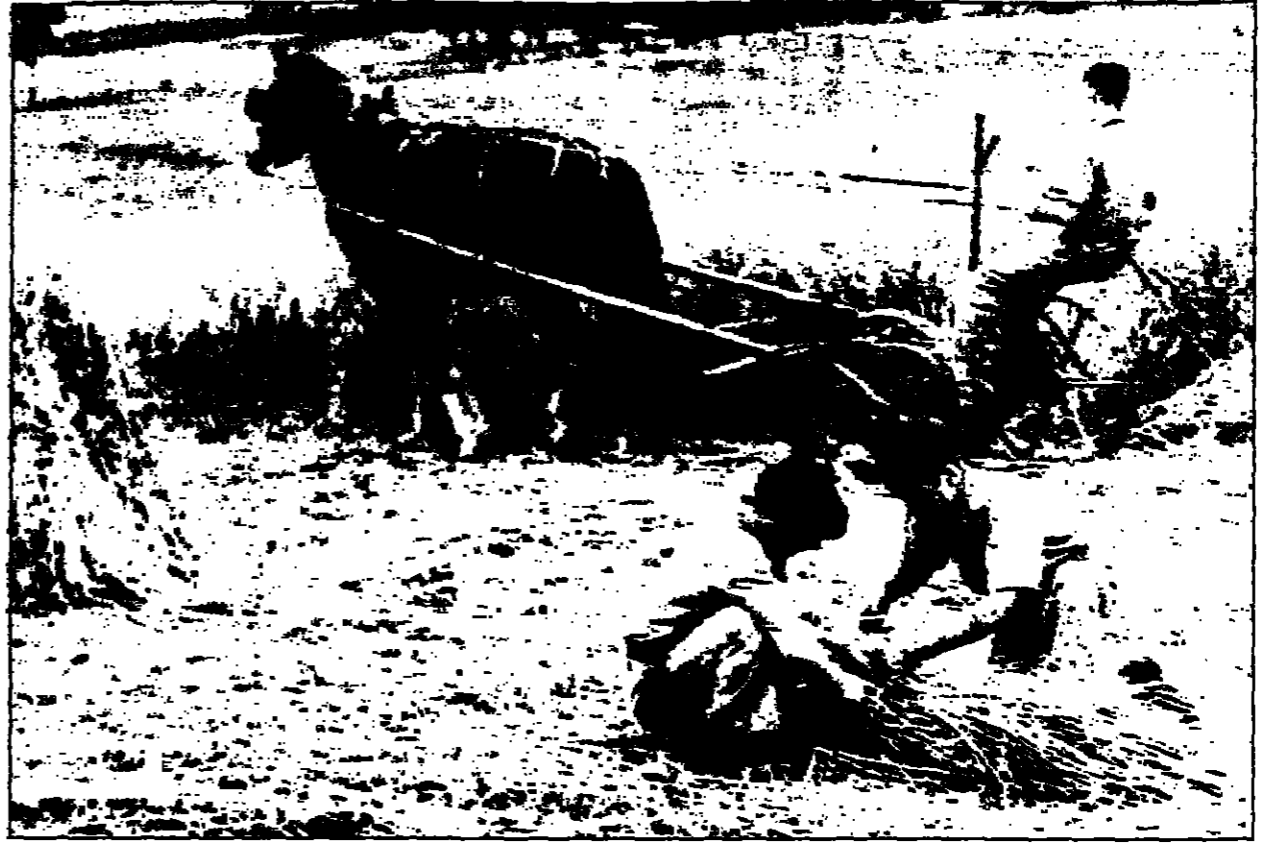
Mr Hinchcliffe added: "What frightens me is that this was going on as late as 1967. I

began as a social worker in 1968 and was dealing with many of the agencies which sent children out but I never knew about it until 1991. Sometimes I think it could have been me."

Nine MPs will fly to Australia and New Zealand in June to take evidence from former child migrants, politicians and officials.

Roger Singleton, chief executive of Barnardo's, which exported 33,000 children aged 4 to 17 between 1882 and 1965, said he hoped that the inquiry would result in government resources being made available to former child migrants who wanted to trace their families. The £600,000 a year that Barnardo's sets aside simply was not enough.

He said that Barnardo's fully recognised that the policy of exporting children was misguided. At the time many of the agencies involved — Barnardo's, the Catholic Child Welfare Council, National Children's Homes and the Salvation Army — had thought that the children might have a better life in former British colonies than



Barnardo's children on a farm in New South Wales in 1937: the charity now recognises its policy was misguided

they could expect in hard-pressed orphanages at home.

But the policy also had an aim of preserving racial purity throughout the English-speaking world. The Archbishop of Perth said in 1938: "If we do not supply from our own stock, we are leaving ourselves all the more exposed to the

menace of the rearing millions of our neighbouring Asian races."

Mr Singleton added that the inquiry might also provide lessons for helping children taken from orphanages in the Eastern bloc when it opened up, and brought to Britain. "If we want to help children in

these circumstances we should perhaps do it in their own countries. Some of those children who were taken to another country will have questions about their parents and their home countries," he said.

Margaret Humphreys, the social worker who highlighted the fate of the child migrants

in her book *Empty Cradles* in 1994, said the inquiry was long overdue. Ms Humphreys, founder and director of The Child Migrants Trust, said: "For the first time, this remarkable group of people will be offered the opportunity to put their views before a select committee of British MPs."

Hard work and harsh discipline — but the food was good

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THEY were, according to an Australian newspaper, "the best kind of migrants you could have". But now, more than 60 years after they stepped ashore from the Orient liner *Otranto*, Eric Leonard, Ernest Sharpling and Marjorie Marchant recall the experience with a mixture of affection and bitterness.

Just after Christmas in 1937 the local newspaper in Sydney wrote: "Australia House [in London] imposes the most severe tests before young migrants are accepted. They have to measure up to a standard so high, physically and mentally, that of a batch of 193 recently only 21 passed." Latest arrivals were sent to the

Pictou, New South Wales — the boys to learn farming and the girls to be taught the duties of a domestic servant.

Eric Leonard, 11, was the illegitimate child of a 16-year-old girl and had spent most of his early life in foster homes. He was heartbroken at leaving his foster mother in England but going to farm school in Australia was "like a great adventure", he said.

"We worked hard and the matrons who looked after us were not allowed to show affection. The discipline was harsh. Punishment was to be hit with a stick across the hand or the buttocks. If you did a bunk, then you got flogged in front of everybody. But the food was good." Mr



Home and away: Eric Leonard, left, and 1937 boys. Ernest Sharpling is back, centre



Leonard became a farm worker and eventually a life-insurance salesman. His abiding regret is that he missed a proper schooling. Mr Leonard, who is writing

a book about child migrants, is in England trying to trace people who knew his mother and foster parents. He believes that former child migrants who were mistreated

deserved to be compensated, and that the Government should help those trying to trace their families. "One thing the boys and girls had in common was that although

well-fed, well-dressed and cared for, their family life was hidden from them and they were often lied to and separated from loved ones."

Marjorie Marchant, 13, was put in a Barnardo's home when her mother died. She was rejected by her stepmother. Barnardo's told her to write to her father saying she was "anxious" to go to Australia, even though that was not true. Before she left, her father said that nobody would be able to stop her returning when she was 21. "I just lived to be 21. I kept going by knowing I would come back to England," she said. She returned at 22. On the voyage she met her future husband, Walter, another child migrant returning home.

Ernest Sharpling, 9, left two brothers and a sister behind in England. His mother had died and his father could not cope with all the children on his own, so Barnardo's organised for him to be fostered. He hated being taken away from his foster mother and was too young to realise what was happening. He believes that child migrants who became farm workers were horribly exploited. "It was not exactly slave labour but we were taken advantage of. No-one else would do the jobs we did." Mr Sharpling, who returned to England to be reunited with his brothers in 1958, believes that the British Government should try to help former child migrants, especially those who have still not clarified their family ori-

gins and their citizenship. David Lorente, the son of a Canadian child migrant, Joe, will tell the Commons inquiry that it is vital to provide former child migrants with access to documents that can prove their citizenship.

His organisation, Home Children Canada, recently dealt with the case of a widow of a former child migrant who was told she was not entitled to receive his life insurance because he had never had proper papers relating to citizenship. Another widow was told that she could not inherit her husband's estate.

"The home children of Canada will never ask for restitution, retribution or an apology. All they ask is speedier access to personal records," he said.



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I Breakthrough helps sufferers of last taboo

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

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A LONDON hospital has achieved an important breakthrough in improving the quality of life of bowel cancer patients by developing the technology to reverse colostomy operations.

The pioneering technique at the Royal London Hospital is being studied by doctors worldwide. Almost 100 patients, some as young as 16, have benefited from the surgery after suffering bowel cancer or damage during childbirth and no longer have to wear a colostomy bag.

The operation has transformed their lives. Some have taken up tennis and swimming after undergoing the reconstructive surgery. The surgical team at the hospital, in London's East End, hope that they have overcome one of the last taboos in medicine.

The complex operation invented by Norman Williams, the Professor of Surgery at the Royal London, is carried out in two stages over three months. It involves transferring muscle from the inside of

a patient's thigh and wrapping it around the back passage to create a new sphincter. The muscle is linked, in the second stage of the operation, by a fine wire to a matchbox-sized stimulator implanted in the soft tissue of the patient's abdomen. The stimulator controls the muscle and bowel movements which can then be properly regulated. The Royal London has reported a success rate of approximately 70 per cent.

A Department of Health grant has been awarded to finance the work which is under review. The London Immunotherapy Cancer Trust, a charity, was set up by a former mayor of Cheltenham to fund more research. A £225,000 state-of-the-art laboratory has been opened which costs £125,000 each year to maintain.

In an attempt to raise sponsorship the trust is sending businesses a video featuring two patients who have undergone the surgery. Last month the Government



Fitzwilliams: eternally grateful for operation

announced a £10 million screening programme for bowel cancer, which kills about 19,000 people in Britain each year. It is the second biggest killer from cancer. Some 30,000 cases are diagnosed each year and the average age of sufferers is 60. Other patients suitable for the operation are women who have suffered damage during childbirth.

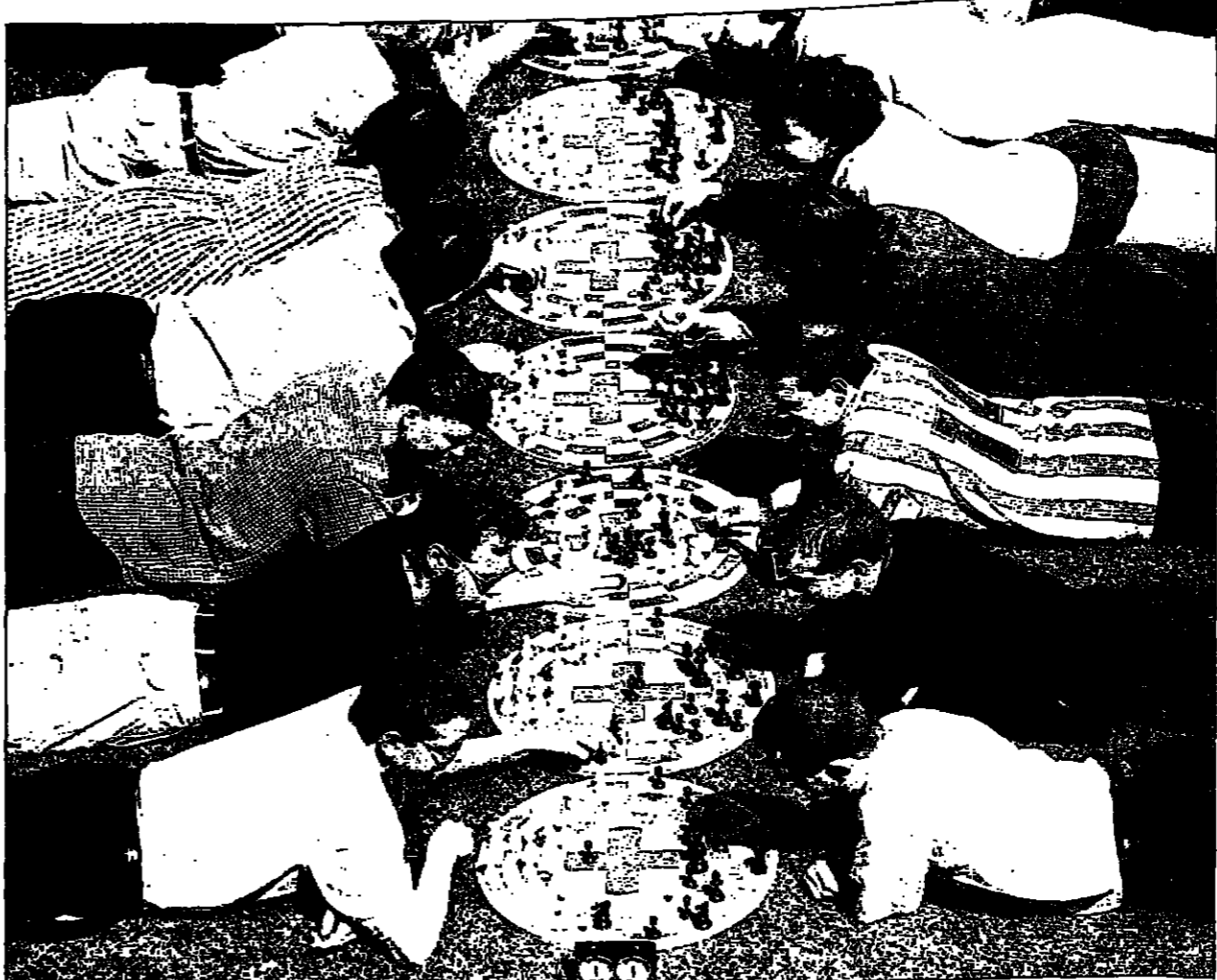
Professor Williams, who devised the technique, said: "Bowel problems are an enormous problem in the Western world. There is still great stigma attached to incontinence. But the progression from incontinence to a colostomy bag can be even worse."

Doctors from as far afield as the United States and Asia have travelled to the hospital to learn about the operation.

Professor Williams said: "I can envisage the time when there are no more colostomy bags. Given individual time, effort, research, we can further perfect the technique."

Sue Fitzwilliams, 35, a mother of two who had the operation after suffering damage during childbirth, said: "I went into hospital to have a baby and came out incontinent. It was psychologically very damaging. No one ever talks about that sort of thing. It is a taboo subject."

Mrs Fitzwilliams, from Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, said: "I was 28. The prospect of a colostomy was traumatic. I had the operation done in 1991 and now lead a completely normal life. I am eternally grateful for the operation."



Knights couchant: competitors in the World Circular Chess Championships at Lincoln Castle yesterday. The round boards originated in medieval Lincoln and players from around the world compete at the castle every year

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Complementary medicine bubble 'about to burst'

BY IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE complementary medicine business, worth an estimated £1 billion a year, may have peaked and be facing decline.

Although British sales of alternative medicine products have been predicted to double over the next five years, there are growing signs that the boom is over, according to Edvard Ernst, of the department of complementary medicine at Exeter University.

His warning comes as a committee set up last year by the Prince of Wales is about to report on how complementary and mainstream medicine can be integrated to improve healthcare. The Prince will open a conference on May 28 to discuss the committee's findings.

Dr Ernst claims that a major reason behind the downturn is that many products face reclassification as restricted drugs because of health risks. Germany has asked the World Health Organisation to reclassify herbal remedies as drugs and to outlaw the sale of preventive natural medicines. The American Food and Drug Administration is considering a change in legislation that

allows herbal remedies to be labelled and sold without being categorised as drugs.

Dr Ernst said that courses run by his department to familiarise GPs and other healthcare professionals with complementary medicine suffered from chronic underbooking.

Although at least half the population uses some form of complementary medicine, the great majority uses mainstream medicine at the same time. "The concept of alternative medicine is erroneous," Dr Ernst said. "At one end are people who use complementary medicine to treat chronic benign complaints that cannot be cured by conventional therapy. At the other are those with life-threatening diseases who use them as a last resort."

Objective research was needed to end the cycle of "enthusiastic promotion by believers and continuous attacks by disbelievers", Dr Ernst said. "This could establish whether complementary medicine works and for which conditions. This is exactly the programme the Prince of Wales wants to establish."

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I Childcare plan lacks back-up

Professionals are in short supply to cope with extra after-school clubs for the children of working parents, reports Alexandra Frean

GOVERNMENT plans to provide one million places in after-school clubs for children whose parents are at work are threatened by an acute shortage of trained personnel to run them, childcare professionals say.

David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, and Harriet Harman, the Social Security Secretary, are expected to include plans for an expansion in the number of after-school clubs and playschemes from 3,500 to 30,000 within five years when they unveil the Government's National Childcare Strategy this week. The move will also mean doubling the existing target for places at after-school clubs for 4 to 14-year-olds from 20,000 to 40,000 this year.

£300 million for the launch of out-of-school clubs, more money would be needed to help to train playworkers. "It could cost £800 to put yourself through an NVQ. People will need help to do the courses," she said.

Collette Kelleher, director of the Daycare trust, a charity that promotes affordable childcare, said that a new profession of playworkers, with a career structure and opportunities for promotion, will have to be created to meet the demands of the growing childcare workforce. "The

outcomes for children are directly related to the calibre of staff. We are talking about training people to a high level—not just sending them on a six-week course but giving them a proper professional qualification. And they will have to be paid properly, at least on a level with nurses or teachers," she said.

Social workers, who are responsible for vetting playworkers to see if they have a criminal record and for inspecting daycare premises, have also given warning that they will

need extra resources if they are to keep pace with the expected huge increase in the number of playworkers.

Dave Burchell, assistant director of the British Association of Social Workers, said: "Initially we expect social workers to be overwhelmed by the increase in demand for checks. In some areas they are already stretched to the limit, with police checks taking up to three months to complete. More resources will have to be put in."

Despite a rapid expansion of out-

of-school childcare in recent years only 2 per cent of 4 to 14-year-olds have a place in an after-school club. The clubs, which are usually open until 6pm, provide activities including arts and crafts, games and sport, drama, music, storytelling and trips, as well as a place where children can do homework. Many clubs are open from 8am during the holidays and from about 3pm during term time. Children are met from school and escorted to the club where they are registered and offered food. Many clubs are based in school premises, others are in hired halls.

To develop the clubs at the pace required by the government targets it is expected that local authorities will have to form partnerships with training and enterprise councils, and large employers in both the private and public sector to provide a childcare taskforce in each area.

Although parents are expected to be involved in after-school clubs, each club needs at least one paid individual to administer it to ensure that health, safety and educational standards are met.

The National Childcare Strategy has the backing of Tony Blair, who has chaired several of the ministerial meetings on it. The strategy will build on efforts by the Prime Minister and Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, to bolster family life while more parents are helped to get back to work.

ENDS



Carol Heinrich with Paul Escott, club co-ordinator

Tall people draw the short straw

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

FIVE hundred of the world's tallest people descended on London yesterday to protest at being short-changed in life.

The Tall Persons Club of Great Britain is hosting *Europatreffen 98*, the annual European convention for the lofty — complete with a large contingent from North America — this week with an agenda dominated by their persecution complex.

Theirs is no tall story, however, but one that will shortly end up with questions asked in the European Parliament in a move to get standard sizes enlarged.

With the population growing taller by an inch per generation, even people of normal height are having to contend with lilliputian standards set in some cases more than a century ago, when the average height was no more than 5ft 6in.

The bed-length standard of 6ft was set in 1860, building regulations for the height of

doorways in 1880 and the average work desk in 1930, while London Underground's Central Line was designed for people of 5ft 8in in stockinged feet.

The club was founded six years ago by Philip Heinrich, 45, and 6ft 8in tall. His wife, Carol, 40 and a mere 5ft 3in, said: "I've been seeing the world through people's legs since the club started. The Germans call me *kleine*, and the seas part when they see me so I can get through."

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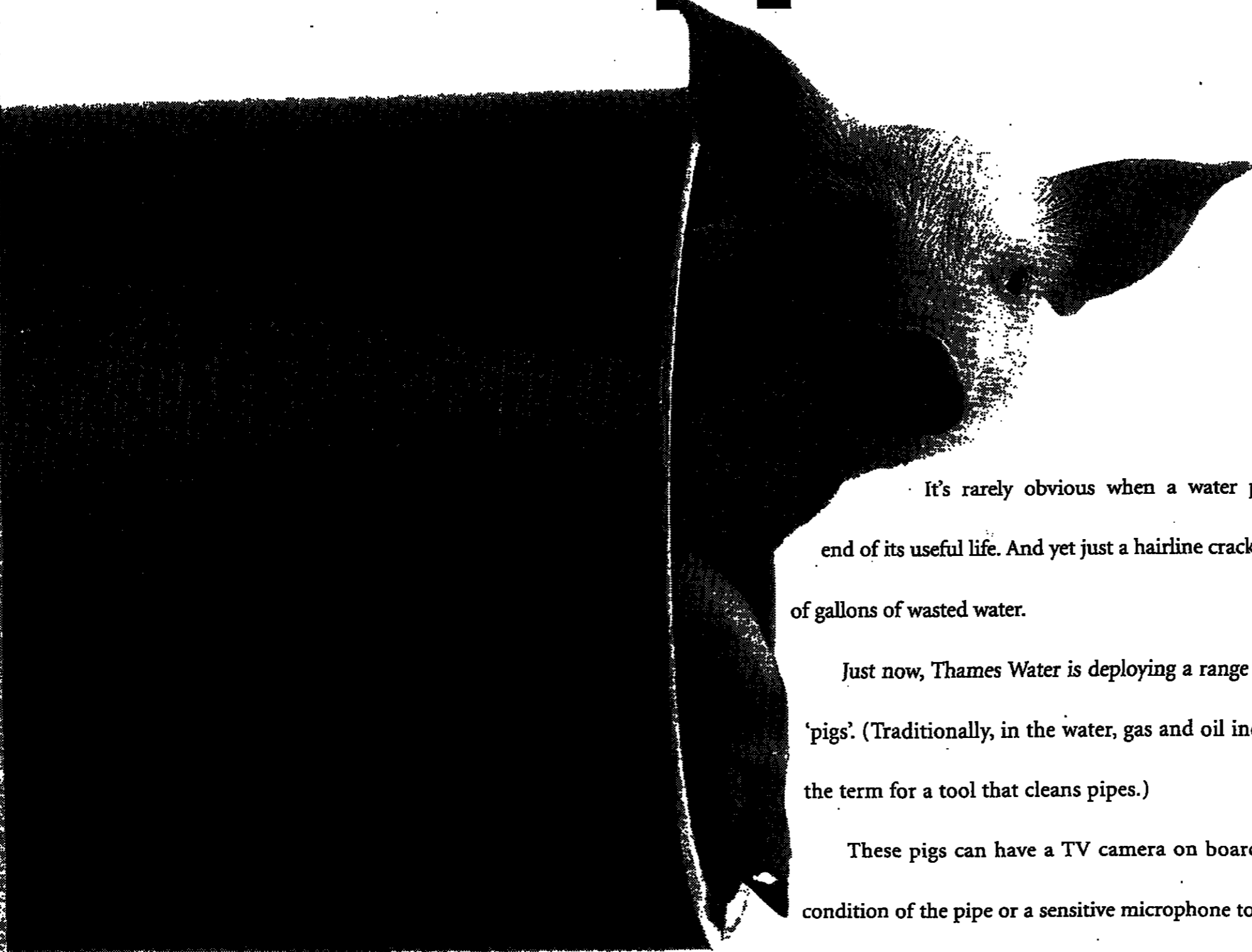
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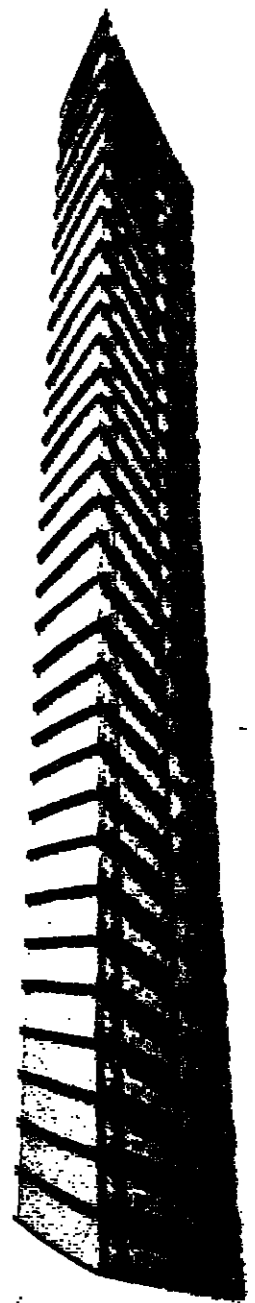
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Police stirred up Jakarta riots



Security hardliners aimed to embarrass the moderate army chief by encouraging jobless looters, writes David Watts

DISAFFECTED and unemployed youths were used by police to instigate the Jakarta riots, it emerged last night as the death toll in the disturbances rose to 500 and arrests totalled 1,000. Three thousand buildings were destroyed in arson and looting over several miles of wrecked properties and burnt-out vehicles.

According to Indonesian sources, East Timorese youths who were seen leaving a police compound were later spotted at incidents of looting. Such unemployed young men are often given jobs as barrack boys with units of the security forces.

Those behind the instigators are believed to have started the action as a way of reinforcing in the public mind the need for President Suharto to stay in power and to embarrass General Wiranto, the Defence Minister and army commander.

He is seen by the public as one of a newer breed of military leader who takes a more intelligent approach to dealing with unrest and has met students to try to reach an agreement with them.

The rioting only stopped after the President returned from a visit to Cairo, and there has been widespread criticism that the security forces did not move faster to deal with them. That may be true. Now there are 15,000 men of the strategic forces, marines and special forces equipped with light tanks and armoured personnel carriers deployed in Jakarta.

Each hotel has a detachment of marines nearby. The tanks on the streets are now interspersed with convoys of cars and minibuses after yet another funeral, the white flags of mourning flying from car radio aeriols.

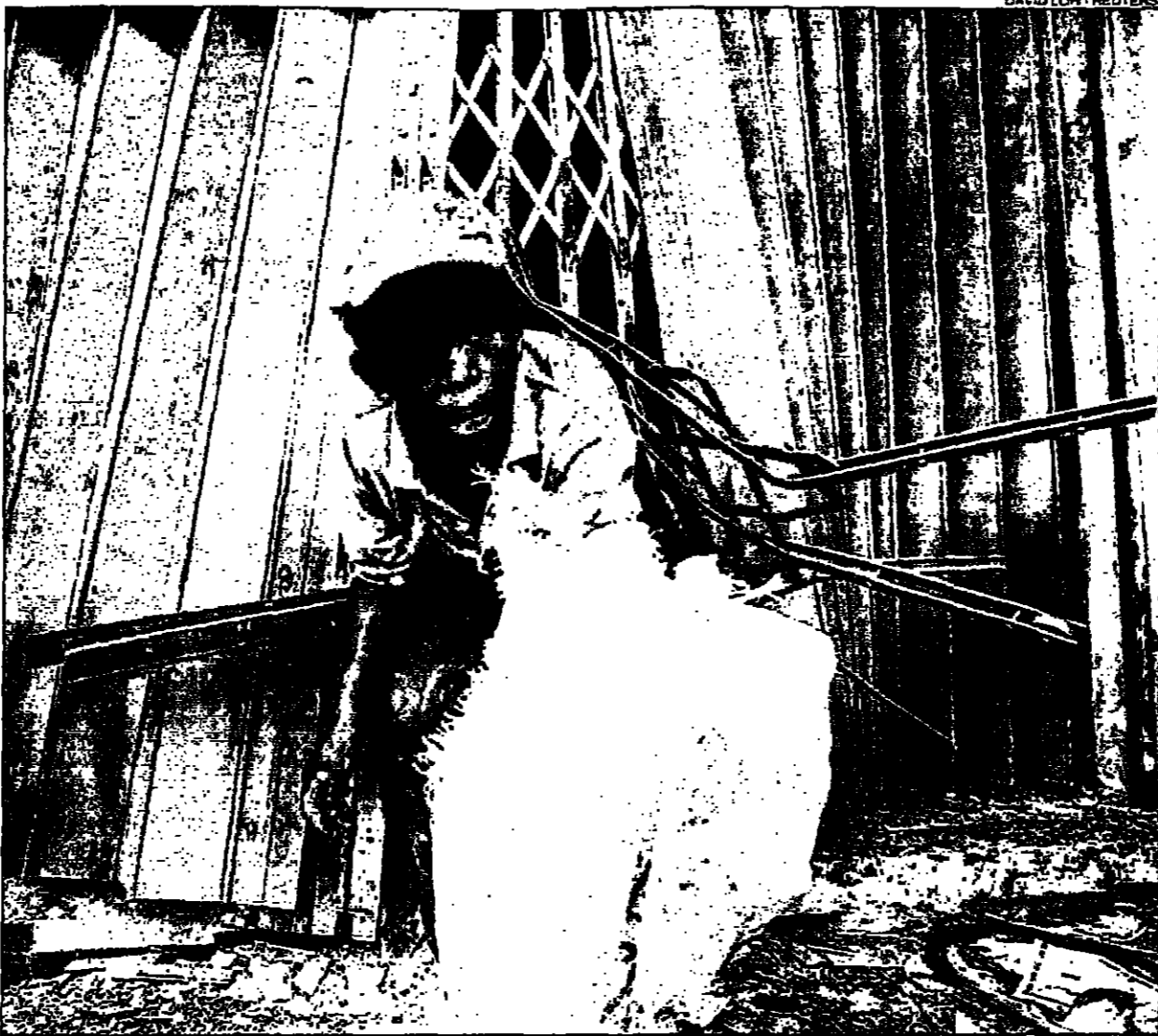
At St. General Wiranto is the youngest Indonesian officer ever to hold that rank. He is also the most open, admitting at the weekend that in the killing of four students at Trisakti University live ammunition had been used without official orders.

Whoever was behind the riots was playing an even more dangerous game than even he would probably imagine — in the suburbs the homes of many of the newly rich lower middle-class were raided, resulting in a much more menacing poor-versus-rich scenario in a city of 11 million people. Jakarta faces the prospect of running out of food with Chinese entrepreneurs largely having fled or gone out of business.

New suburban developments often force peasants off their land and resentments are deep and long-lasting.

Though some local markets are operating for those who have money, no shopping centres for the middle and upper classes have been opened since the rioting began. That brings the prospect of panic buying when they reopen today.

Already hotels are running short of certain commodities and, with the banks closed,



A scavenger emerges yesterday from a shop in Jakarta, looted and set ablaze during the disturbances last week

they have no local currency. The citizens of Jakarta, who have no great love for the army, are laying blame for much of the chaos at the door of General Wiranto. Though he is a former aide to the

President, there is widespread speculation that he may be sacrificed in the forthcoming Cabinet reshuffle. The reshuffle is rather like applying a Bandaid to a brain haemorrhage. But if the President does

sacrifice the general in either of his two posts, there are real fears that could bring inter-camp strife in the army. The general is popular with his troops, who champion his cause against that of Lieutenant-General Prabowo Subianto, the strategic reserve and former special forces commander and the President's son-in-law. At 46, he is known to be ambitious to rise to the army's top position.

ant-General Prabowo Subianto, the strategic reserve and former special forces commander and the President's son-in-law. At 46, he is known to be ambitious to rise to the army's top position.

Fleeing Britons tell of their fears for those still trapped in city

By TIM JONES

Hundreds of Britons still in Indonesia were last night urged to flee the country amid predictions that the bloodshed will increase. Although the violence has abated, the Foreign Office fears that a fresh wave of rioting and looting could explode on Wednesday when students plan major demonstrations for National Awakening Day, which is a public holiday.

Yesterday more than 300 fled back to Britain relating stories of widespread anarchy, bitter fighting and despair. Some said the Government was not doing enough to ensure there were sufficient flights for all those who wanted to return.

But the Foreign Office insisted there were enough flights for people to leave by normal commercial means. If the situation changes, there are contingency plans which will involve the RAF and Royal Navy being dispatched to evacuate people.

As Amanda Champ, 28, from Chelmsford, Essex, arrived at Heathrow airport yesterday after a 16-hour flight, she spoke of her anger towards the British Government. A teacher at the British School in Jakarta, she said: "The Americans picked up all their citizens and took them out to a private airport and put them on military jets."

"The message from the British Embassy was just 'we advise you to go, but bear in mind it is dangerous and to get to the airport you are on your own'. I am not feeling particularly proud to be British at the moment."

She added: "A lot of my friends tried to get to the airport and turned back because they were so frightened. I know people whose car was smashed with stones and sticks."

Carol D'Arcy, 48, from Windsor, Berkshire, whose husband Guy, a petrochemical engineer, is still trying to get out the country, said: "I

am absolutely petrified for him. He is trying to get out as soon as he can."

Alison Legg, 35, a mother of four, said she could see from her home on the city outskirts smoke rising from burning buildings. Somerset, said that for five days her family had been locked up in their home "like prisoners".

Two holidaymakers, David Wyeth, 34, and Tom Maher, 35, both from Staines, Surrey, said they had decided to go to Indonesia because it was cheap, but ended up being caught in a riot.

Mr Wyeth said: "We were in a town and we drove straight into a riot. We were just driving down the main drag and suddenly there were rows of police with riot shields blocking the roads and students throwing things at them. Our taxi driver made a fast retreat."

In the turmoil, Jim Jarvie, of Grantown-on-Spey, Highland, was separated from his American girlfriend, Laurie Pearce. He said: "She was in Jakarta and I was many miles away in Bogor. People are terrified. All the buildings are smashed up. When we reached Jakarta, we could see fires ringing the city."

Last night Clare Hatton, British Airways manager in Jakarta, said extra shuttle flights meant that everyone who wanted to could leave the country.

Jakarta: Many senior Indonesians are routinely given multiple-entry visas to Britain, including President Suharto's daughter, Siti Hardiyanti Rukmana, the Social Affairs Minister who is nicknamed Tutut (David Watts writes).

British Embassy officials, denying a report in the Independent on Sunday that Tutut was in Britain, said they believed that she was still in Indonesia.

Summit hints Suharto should go if troubles worsen

By MICHAEL BRYNON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

ALL the leaders at the Group of Eight summit in Birmingham at the weekend underlined their "deep concern" over Indonesia, deploring the killings and spurge of violence. But none called openly for the resignation of President Suharto, insisting that this was a matter for the Indonesians themselves.

They left no doubt, however, that they want to see him go before things get worse. "The current social unrest indicates that, to resolve the crisis,

political as well as economic reform is necessary," they declared in the final communiqué. "We encourage the authorities to respond rapidly, by opening a dialogue which addresses the aspirations of the Indonesian people and by introducing the necessary reforms."

The leaders saw Indonesia as by far the most serious casualty of Asia's economic turmoil, which they also discussed at length. They recognised the hardship that the economic crisis had caused, but insisted that the reform programme agreed with the International Monetary Fund was

the only way to restore confidence and growth. They left no doubt that President Suharto's Government had to change course. "Successful economic reform and international support for it will require sufficient political and social stability."

They called on ordinary Indonesians to express their views peacefully, saying it was essential to avoid an intensification of violence.

The eight leaders took a tough line on the Middle East, warning the Israelis and Palestinians that a stalemate in the peace process would have "grave consequences" for regional security.

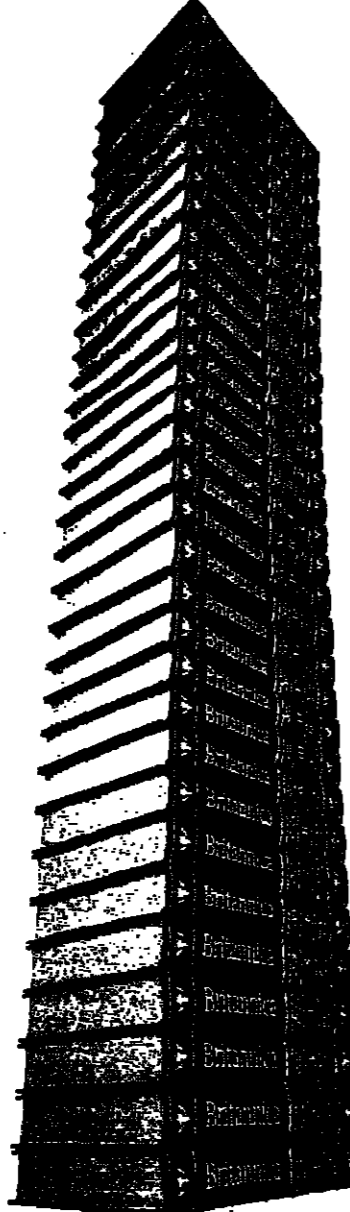
President Clinton was keen to get world endorsement for his attempts to cajole the Netanyahu Government into a further withdrawal. The G8 leaders did not apportion blame directly, but implicitly criticised Israel, saying that agreements concluded were not being implemented.

On Kosovo, the G8, which includes all six Contact Group countries, hailed the meeting between President Milosevic and Ibrahim Rugova, leader of the Kosovo Albanians, as a "positive first step". But if a genuine political process did not happen,

Belgrade's isolation would deepen. And in Bosnia the leaders saw rays of hope for the first time. Its people had accomplished much under difficult circumstances, they said; they looked to its leaders to work harder to create a stable future.

President Yeltsin, gratified at Russia's final full acceptance in the G8 process, played a full role in almost all discussions, Herr Kohl reported. He said the Russian leader was "extremely fit".

G8 debt failure, page 14
Pakistan bomb, page 15



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Police chief urges leaders to declare joint war on global crime



Penrose: justice systems must co-operate more

WORLD leaders have been told that the threat from transnational crime was huge and the fight against it needed "unprecedented levels of international co-operation". In what was believed to be the first police briefing given at a G8 summit, Roy Penrose, Director-General of the National Crime Squad, estimated that crime cost developed countries 2 per cent of their GNP. The cost for developing countries was even higher - up to 14 per cent of GNP. A G8 taskforce, set up two years ago after the last inter-

Money laundering, illegal arms sales and the smuggling of immigrants are among problems which the G8 nations are trying to combat, Michael Binyon writes

sive discussion of drugs, crime and money laundering, has already led to impressive international operations to catch drug smugglers and arms dealers. Mr Penrose showed the leaders videos of sting operations that had netted an arms smuggling ring

selling about £37 million worth of weapons on the black market. Another showed three police forces working together to catch drug barons. The real problem, however, was not police co-operation but getting the different judicial systems to work together.

Mr Penrose said. He added that the laundering of proceeds of drug and arms sales was also an increasing challenge, as ever-more sophisticated ways were found to avoid bank controls. Britain came under the spotlight, as its partners complained that several British-administered territories were becoming havens for illegal money operations. British officials said the leaders wanted to know more about offshore financial activities. Mexico has just sent a top delegation to urge the Foreign

Office to tighten controls in the territories, especially on the Cayman Islands, which Mexico says is a "black hole" into which drug profits simply disappear. Russia was also urged to do more to curb transnational crime, especially the activities of mafia groups. President Yeltsin was reported to have been "vigorously engaged" in offering to help his partners curb crime originating in Russia. Mr Penrose said criminals were motivated solely by profit, and dealt not only in drugs

and arms but increasingly in the lucrative trade in smuggling illegal immigrants. He told the leaders during their retreat on Saturday that criminals could attack computer systems and hide their tracks within minutes. The discussion of high-tech crime was intended to co-ordinate positions before the United Nations special conference this summer. The conference will prepare a new convention within the next two years to fight crime which the leaders on Saturday promised to make effective with all the

national tools they had. The leaders outlined a ten-point plan to fight high-tech crime and called for talks with industry on setting up a legal framework that would allow police to obtain electronic data as evidence while maintaining appropriate privacy. They said this was essential in fighting the abuse of the Internet and other new technologies. The leaders emphasised the need to curb trafficking in chemicals used to manufacture drugs and eradicate illicit crops.

JEROME RAY

Blair admits failure on debt relief package

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR admitted yesterday that the Government had failed in its efforts to persuade the Group of Eight leaders to speed up debt relief measures for some of the world's poorest countries. Debt relief was one of the main items on the agenda at the weekend's summit in Birmingham, but the meeting concluded without any significant new agreements.

Debt campaigners accused the G8 leaders of "washing their hands of the world's poor" and expressed disappointment that Mr Blair had not pushed the issue, despite the Government's encouraging words ahead of the summit.

The Prime Minister, however, insisted the G8 leaders had taken a "significant step forward". The summit accepted there should be new measures to help to deal with the debt problems of "post-conflict" countries, such as Rwanda and Sierra Leone, and the G8 communiqué made a commitment to ensure that as many countries as possible are involved in the debt relief process by 2000.

"I think the honest answer is to say that we did not go as far as many would have liked us to go, but I think we did make very considerable progress,"

Mr Blair said. The Prime Minister hinted that, on this issue, public opinion in Britain had run ahead of other countries and that the Government's "pretty advanced position" had proved unacceptable to some G8 leaders.

Up to 70,000 good-natured protesters descended on Birmingham over the weekend to press G8 leaders for

6 Campaigners blamed Japan and Germany for their continuing resistance

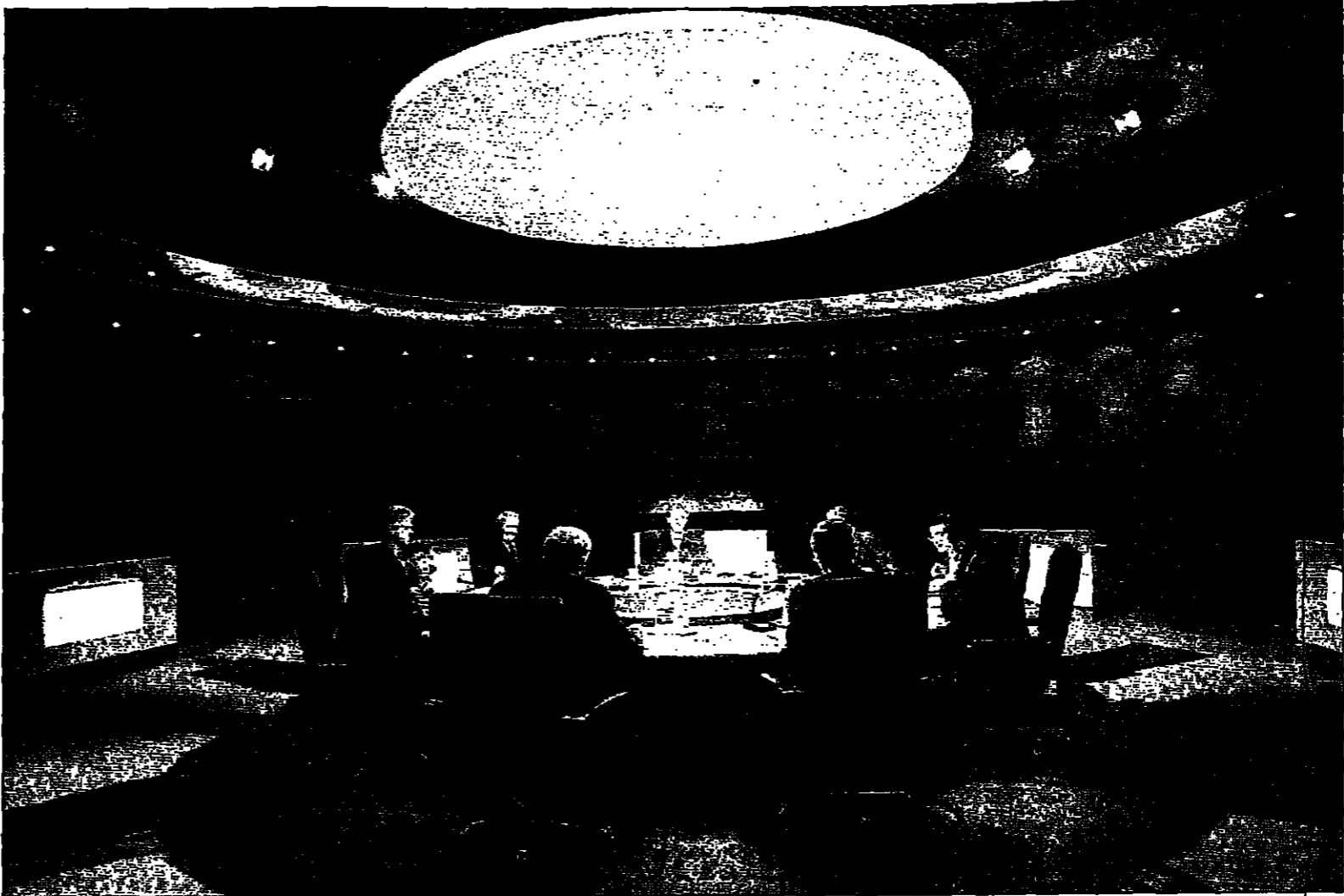
immediate debt relief measures for up to 50 of the world's most impoverished countries. Families with young children, students and pensioners had been bussed in from all over the country by Jubilee 2000, which represents 70 aid organisations and charities, to build a six-mile human chain around the summit site on Saturday. Andrew Simms, a cam-

paigner for Christian Aid, said: "Middle England will be mightily disappointed that these powerful countries can't muster the political will to achieve the affordable aim of saving lives".

Debt campaigners blamed the failure of the summit talks on continuing resistance from Germany and Japan. Germany is concerned that speeding up the debt relief process will encourage developing countries to run up new debts through wasteful expenditure.

Under the existing debt relief programmes, just six countries, including Mozambique and Uganda, have so far seen a reduction in their debt burdens. Britain has vowed, under the Mauritius Mandate, to campaign to ensure that two thirds of all eligible countries are included in the process by 2000. Campaigners, however, claim existing plans are too slow. They estimate that the world's poorest countries spend more than \$30 billion (£18.5 billion) every year on debt servicing. Even in cases where some debt relief has been agreed, the sums involved are often modest. In Mozambique, relief is worth £7p per person a year.

Leading article, page 23
Devaluation row, page 49



Tony Blair presides at the G8 summit in Birmingham yesterday. Counterclockwise, from his right, are Presidents Yeltsin, Clinton and Chirac, Helmut Kohl, Jean Chrétien, Ryutaro Hashimoto, Romano Prodi and Jacques Santer, the European Commission President

Statesmen out of step with Cool Britannia

BY CAROL MIDGLEY

IT WAS one of several moments during the Group of Eight summit when the world's leaders were clearly not in step. At a pop concert to celebrate Cool Britannia, the statesmen were faced with

arguably the greatest challenge of the summit - staying in rhythm as they danced to the Beatles hit *All You Need Is Love*.

Despite their enthusiastic efforts, Tony Blair and President Clinton simply did not seem able to keep time as they clapped and swivelled their hips to the music.

Helmut Kohl, the gigantic German Chancellor, and Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Japanese Prime Minister, dancing a few feet away, seemed altogether more at ease with boogying.

The audience, however, were denied the spectacle of President Yeltsin's fancy footwork. The Russian leader was "too tired" to attend the event at Birmingham's Symphony Hall. This led to rumours that

Mr Yeltsin had over-indulged his love of vodka while watching the FA Cup Final, but that was officially denied. He and his wife, Naina, were said to have gone to bed early at their suite in the Hyatt Hotel.

The other leaders and their spouses declared themselves thrilled with the concert. Hosted by the pianist Jools Holland and his Rhythm and Blues Orchestra, it featured performances by Labour supporter Mick Hucknall, Chris Rea, Sam Brown and the all-girl pop group All Saints.

Mr Clinton snuggled up to his wife, Hillary, who was resplendent in a pale pink trouser suit and matching hairband.

Mr Blair moved his chair closer to the Clintons, leaving Mrs Blair in a difficult social

position. If she moved closer to her husband, she risked appearing to snub President Chirac and his wife, Bernadette, who sat to her right. So she stayed put and ended up sitting virtually alone in a huge space which should have been filled by the Yeltsins. But she seemed to enjoy the concert the most, singing along to many of the songs.

The event was determinedly informal. All Saints, who performed in T-shirts and trainers, shrieked "Hi Tony" from the stage as if addressing a mate in the pub.

Meanwhile, a people's concert was being held simultaneously in Birmingham's Cannonhill Park, where 35,000 people gathered to hear artists ranging from

Mica Paris to Lionel Richie, who attended because Mr Clinton is one of his biggest fans.

By the final song the entire Symphony Hall was on its feet dancing - except for the leaders. This prompted a Downing Street aide, Maggi Cleaver, to tip-toe to the side of Mr Clinton and Mr Blair, urging them to get into the spirit of the occasion, which they duly did, followed by the other leaders.

Only Mme Chirac poked-unnimpressed, though her husband belted out John Lennon's lyrics for the crowd. As a gift for their grandchildren, Mr and Mrs Yeltsin requested a set of talking Teletubbies. Dipsy, Po, La-Lu and Tinky Winky are now on their way to the Kremlin.

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Pakistan Cabinet authorises nuclear bomb test

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WEST

Pakistan Cabinet authorises nuclear bomb test

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS, SOUTH ASIA CORRESPONDENT

PAKISTAN is to carry out an underground nuclear test in response to the five nuclear explosions by India last week.

US intelligence analysts say preparations for a test are going ahead and that a blast could come at any time.

Both India and Pakistan appear to be embarking on a race to be the first to put nuclear warheads on their missiles.

Public opinion is demanding an explosion, largely unaware of how close the economy is to collapse.

More economic hardship could create greater social and political instability in a country that has for years suffered punitive measures by the US over its clandestine nuclear programme.

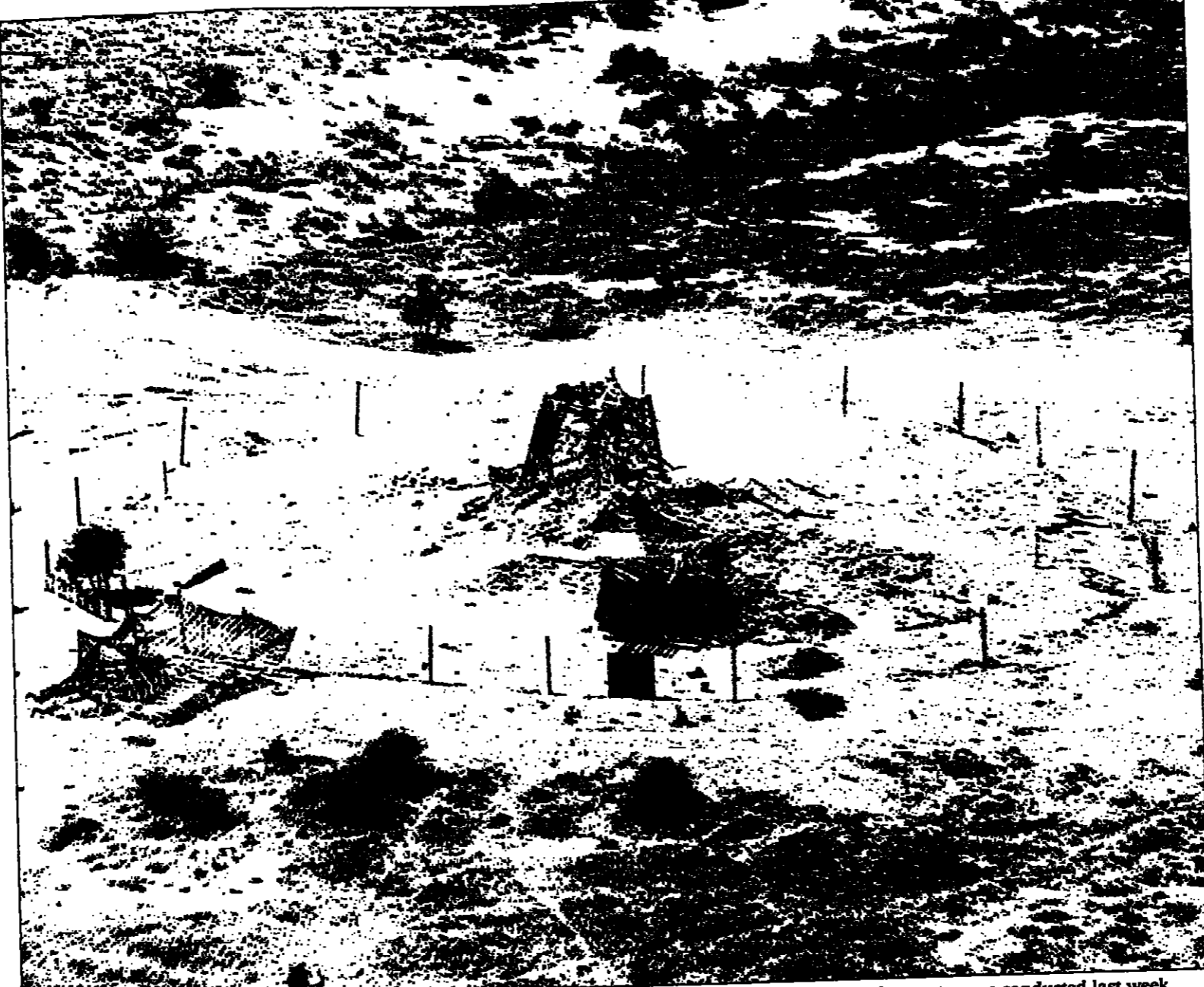
Islamabad expressed dismay that the Group of Eight summit had failed to agree on co-ordinated punitive measures against India.

Gohar Ayub Khan, the Pakistani Foreign Minister, said that nuclear tests were only a matter of timing.

Both India and Pakistan appear to be embarking on a race to be the first to put nuclear warheads on their missiles.

As the mood of euphoria began to subside, a group of leading Indian citizens, including former diplomats, academics and writers, criticised the "outpourings of bloated national pride".

But the leaders did not propose any cut in aid or the imposition of economic sanctions, and said India could rejoin the mainstream of international opinion if it unconditionally signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.



An Indian government photograph shows Shakti 3, one of four sites in the Thar desert where nuclear tests were conducted last week

Clinton predicts repeat of Cold War in Asia

BY MICHAEL BINYON AND PHILIP WEBSTER

PRESIDENT Clinton yesterday gave a warning that a nuclear arms race in South Asia was a "nutty way to go".

He said that, if Pakistan tried to match the Indian tests, China would then come in and re-create, in a different context, the conflicts of the Cold War.

But the leaders did not propose any cut in aid or the imposition of economic sanctions, and said India could rejoin the mainstream of international opinion if it unconditionally signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

Mr Blair reported that he had been assured by Atal Behari Vajpayee, the Indian Prime Minister, that India would begin discussions immediately with a view to signing the test ban treaty.

Voicing the G8's "concern and frustration" at its inability to influence either Pakistan or India, Mr Blair warned Pakistan not to explode its own nuclear device.

President Clinton, speaking on BBC's Breakfast with Frost programme, said America had to take economic action against India because "we need to clear that in the world of today and tomorrow, it is simply unacceptable to build a nuclear arsenal, and it is unrealistic to believe that you can build one and you won't use it in any circumstances".

Mr Clinton said the firmest of the world's response, the more likely the G8 would be to persuade Pakistan, and other countries, that they should not try to become members of the nuclear club.

Mr Blair hopes that a firm statement, coupled with inducements to get Delhi to sign the treaties, would give Mr Vajpayee a face-saving way of halting all further testing and forestall any attempt by Pakistan to carry out its own tests.

Beijing expected to review military options

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN BEIJING

INDIA'S surprise five underground nuclear tests and Delhi's description of China as its chief security threat have injected an unpredictable new degree of instability into Asia.

"Now suddenly the world's two most populous states are involved in a dramatic new security situation," said one Beijing-based analyst.

There is concern that Beijing, which signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty in 1996 after completing a much-criticised series of underground nuclear tests, will think again and resume underground explosions.

China defeated India in a brief 1962 border war, a debacle that caused deep wounds to India's self-esteem from which it is only now recovering.

Diplomats say the tests, possibly timed deliberately, have altered the background to President Clinton's Beijing visit next month.

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Kohl's conjuring tricks mask the decline of Christian Democrats

INSIDE GERMANY



BY ROGER BOYES

Little old ladies frequently receive cards through the post in Germany announcing that they are the lucky winners of a *Kaffeeahrt*, a bus trip into the countryside culminating in coffee, cake and an opportunity to buy an overpriced orthopaedic mattress. The collective hysteria of the women, flattered by and vaguely indebted to the coffee-dispensing salesman, ensures that they snap up unnecessary and usually defective bargains.

Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, is hoping for the *Kaffeeahrt* effect at today's Christian Democratic Union

up in September — but they are in debt to him, and locked up together in an air-conditioned hall they may just believe the unbelievable, that Herr Kohl can win again.

He might just pull off the election. The economy is growing quickly. Helmut was lugged by Bill in Berlin. G8 showed that the Chancellor remains in some strange way essential, embarrassing but irreplaceable, like a Victorian heirloom. The sun is shining, summer holiday bookings are the most active for years. The Chancellor is off to China to lobby for German jobs. If he can prove that the economy is not safe

in the hands of the Social Democrats — by dint of their dalliance with unreliable Communists or Greens — then he might tug a rabbit out of his moth-eaten top hat.

The question, however, is whether he can save the Christian Democrats. There is a general collapse of the Centre-Right in Europe. The Dutch election earlier this month followed the trend: Wim Kok's Labour Party came out strongly, the Christian Democrats withered. History has emptied Christian Democracy of meaning. In Italy it was supposed to be a bulwark against Soviet communism: Soviet rule col-

lapsed, and sure enough so did the Christian Democrats. Even in deeply Roman Catholic countries like Poland, Christian Democracy has played little part in the new post-communist landscape.

In postwar Germany, the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) was a merger of Weimar groupings. Its purpose was to provide a counterpoint to Nazi beliefs and socialism. This was the party of Rhineland capitalism, with its own Francophile way of looking at Europe. It was shaped by Konrad Adenauer and its last exponent is Herr Kohl. He

cannot save it. Politics is played differently now. The move from Bonn to Berlin symbolises that change. So does the rotten state of Franco-German relations and eastward enlargement. Centre-right policies on law and order and immigration have been snatched by the Social Democrats, as surely as Tony Blair shifted into Tory terrain. The far Right mops up the stragglers.

The turning point in CDU fortunes came, I believe, in 1994 with the party's paper advocating a "hard-core" Europe and suggesting the names of those, like Italy, who might have to stay on the

soft perimeters. The party's strategists abandoned a Christian Democratic vision of Europe and embraced instead a *realpolitik* that could not be supported, for Germany was not powerful enough to decide by itself who should be in or out of an integrated continent. The party over-reached itself and Herr Kohl was exposed.

There were other moments, too. The CDU was always the party of sound money. Then the Kohl Government made a grab for the Bundesbank gold reserve. Now it is the party of the unlovable euro. It was the party of Christian solidarity, yet in trying to

rationalise the economy it ditched a religious holiday. Unable to come up with a coherent view of the European future, it excluded Turkey, leaving open the question of whether the continent should have a Christian identity.

Herr Kohl's European policy has dished the party. But it is difficult to find anyone in the CDU who can save it from decline. They can now only renew themselves in opposition, so reformers have the choice to wish secretly for failure or to work for a blemished victory. The most intelligent people in his party have lost the will to win.

Clinton in cash row over China satellites deal

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton faced yesterday the most damaging spectre linked to his re-election campaign as the Justice Department began an investigation into whether big Democratic Party contributions influenced a decision to export commercial satellites to China.

The preliminary inquiry to determine any grounds for a criminal investigation against the White House came after Republican allegations that the Administration allowed a US aerospace company to conduct business with China because its chief executive was the single largest donor to the Democrats in 1996.

At the heart of new questions is Loral Space and Communications, a company that has long lobbied to place its commercial satellites on board Chinese rockets.

Bernard Schwartz, its chief executive officer, donated \$632,000 (£387,000) to the Clinton-Gore campaign before the White House authorised his company's transfer of technology to Beijing, granting a waiver to sanctions imposed after the

1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy uprising. The White House apparently overrode the objections of the Justice Department, which two years earlier had investigated Loral for the alleged illegal transfer of satellite technology to China.

Republicans are preparing hearings in both the House and Senate, accusing the Administration of betraying the American national interest in its voracious demand for campaign contributions.

President Clinton, in Birmingham, denied any quid pro quo. "The decisions we made were made because we thought they were in the interests of the American people," he said.

But the inquiries only appeared to lend credibility to another highly controversial disclosure that the Chinese People's Liberation Army was the source of big illegal contributions to the Clinton-Gore campaign.

Johnny Chung, a leading Democratic fundraiser, claims he received \$300,000 from Liu Chaoying, a lieutenant-colonel in the Chinese military and an

aerospace official. The \$100,000 that entered Democratic Party coffers has since been returned, but the lobbying of the White House by both American and Chinese aerospace companies has rekindled passions over whether US national security was compromised.

It has also highlighted links between the United States and China only days after India, in testing its nuclear weapons last week, cited American double standards in failing to prevent Beijing's nuclear proliferation at its borders.

Perhaps most embarrassing of all was a report in *The New York Times* yesterday which said that Mr Clinton had in 1995 reversed a decision taken five months earlier by Warren Christopher, his former Secretary of State, to limit China's ability to launch American-made satellites aboard Chinese rockets.

In reversing the policy, Mr Clinton also passed control of export licensing to the Commerce Department, then run by the late Ron Brown, one of the Democratic Party's key fundraising strategists.



Aleksandr Lebed and his wife Inna carry flowers for an actress at a theatre while campaigning in Krasnoyarsk

Lebed takes Siberia route to Kremlin

FROM ROBIN LODGE IN MOSCOW

VOTERS in the Siberian region of Krasnoyarsk yesterday gave a huge boost to the Russian presidential hopes of Aleksandr Lebed, the former general, as early results showed him heading for victory in the race for governor.

General Lebed, 48, sacked in 1996 as

National Security Adviser by President Yeltsin, was reported to have 55.32 per cent of the vote, with 40 per cent of the ballot counted. His victory will give him control of a mineral-rich area and provide him with a strong base to mount a presidential campaign when Mr Yeltsin's term expires in 2000.

In the first round of voting three weeks ago, General Lebed topped the poll with

just more than 45 per cent of the votes. Yesterday's vote was a run-off against the second-placed candidate, Valeri Zubov, the incumbent Governor.

General Lebed has widespread support among poorer people in the outlying regions where the benefits of post-Communist Russia are hard to identify, and where resentment is highest against the country's current leadership.

WORLD SUMMARY

Sinatra funeral private

Los Angeles: Frank Sinatra's family made it clear at the weekend that they intend to mourn him in private, announcing that attendance at his funeral in Beverly Hills on Wednesday would be by invitation only (Giles Whitwell writes). Security at the ceremony will be tight. Sinatra is expected to be buried in the family plot in Cathedral City, near Palm Springs.

Wreck found

Rome: A fully-laden 15th-century Venetian merchant vessel has been found beneath the Grand Canal in Venice, near the Rialto bridge, and is to be brought to the surface next week.

Mayoress killed

Colombo: Sarojani Yogeswaran, 50, the Mayoress of the Sri Lankan city of Jaffna, was shot dead at home by two Tamil youths on bicycles. Police suspect Tamil Tiger separatists.

US crime falls

Washington: The American crime rate fell in 1997 for the sixth consecutive year, the FBI said. The agency said the steepest drop was for murders and robberies, each down 9 per cent from 1996. (Reuters)

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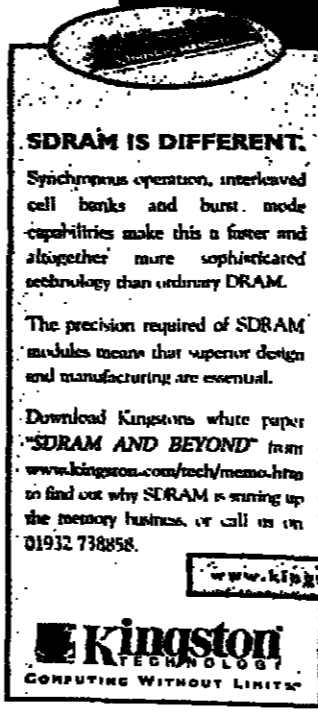


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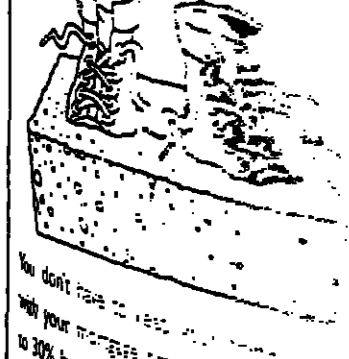


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Air pollution in Mexico City: hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides from car fumes react with sunlight to produce a choking photochemical smog

The battle to stay cool

Cool Britannia, it seems, has finally gone into meltdown. After record temperatures over the past fortnight, the first smog warnings of the summer have been issued in London.

As well as spelling misery for those with respiratory problems, the seasonal blanket of murky haze will ensure that the capital remains several degrees hotter than the surrounding countryside.

The heat brings environmental problems — buildings require more air-conditioning, which consumes more fuel, which in turn leads to more unwanted emissions. The heat also speeds up the chemical reactions in the atmosphere that lead to smog.

Learning about these localised heat pockets, say scientists, could rid us of this annual headache. Moreover, experiments suggest that using the information to tweak urban landscapes could pay handsome dividends. Com-

Anjana Ahuja reports on the colourful research that could bring a breath of fresh air to big cities

puter simulations at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory in California show that painting roofs white, planting trees and covering asphalt roads with lighter coloured concrete, can cool urban areas by about four degrees.

Nasa's Marshall Space Flight Centre in Huntsville, Alabama, is now planning to transform fancy simulations into action. Researchers will spend the next three months making detailed "heat maps" of three American cities, and talking to city planners. The cities — Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Sacramento, California; and Salt Lake City, Utah — have been chosen because they fall foul of air quality laws. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is funding the project.

The target of the research is a phenomenon called urban

heat islands. These bubbles of warm air, suspended above cities, grow with urban development, as natural surfaces are replaced with artificial ones. In fact, when heat-sensitive instruments were used in a recent feasibility experiment to build a heat map of Atlanta, Georgia, concrete and asphalt could be seen glowing brightly in the infra-red region.

"The artificial materials store much of the Sun's energy and remain hot long after sunset," says Dr Jeff Luvall, who, with Dr Dale Quatrochi, is leading the Urban Heat Island Pilot Project. In extreme cases, these heat pockets can push city temperatures ten degrees higher than surrounding rural areas. During the coming months, satellites and aircraft will fly over the three cities to take thermal readings and to measure humidity.

Ground-level ozone is the most pressing environmental blight — all three chosen cities exceed the maximum allowed levels. This choking irritant is produced when hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides from car fumes react with sunlight. For this reason, it is also known as photochemical smog.

The hotter the city, the more quickly the ground-level ozone forms. This is why the summer months are so uncomfortable for asthmatics and people with breathing difficulties, and why we are asked to leave our cars at home.

One option for reducing temperature, and therefore ground-level ozone, is to plant more trees. As well as providing pleasant, leafy shade, trees and plants soak up the Sun's heat and use it to evaporate water from their leaves.

"The evaporation of water actually absorbs a lot of heat," says Dr Luvall. "The energy required to do it is taken from the air and from the sunlight intercepted by the leaves, thus cooling the air."

their roofs covered with white plastic and tall trees were planted, air-conditioning costs were cut by 40 per cent.

"Roofs need to be replaced roughly every twenty years, so over a period of time the city can gradually change," Dr Luvall says.

However, there are problems. Because less light is being absorbed, houses may require more heating during winter. It is possible that increased heating costs could outweigh savings made in summer. The solution may be to look at intelligent materials that either reflect or absorb heat depending on air temperature.

Colour is not everything. Nearly half of the heat absorbed by buildings lies in the infra-red (IR) region, which is invisible to the eye. Materials don't necessarily need to be white to reflect this portion of the spectrum. Researchers at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, led by Dr Haider Taha, would like to see minimum reflection levels incorporated into building standards.

Scientists at the Marshall Space Flight Centre will test their ideas from scratch when they help to design the Olympic village in Salt Lake City, which will host the 2004 Winter Games. They intend it to be a "cool community", designed to cope during summer months with the location's mostly dry, hot climate.

Such changes need the support of community, govern-

ment and action groups to make them work.

Still, Dr Luvall is confident that this, rather than getting people to give up their cars, is the right approach to urban pollution.

"I don't think people will ever give up their cars, at least not in the United States. And I have been really surprised at the support we have been getting from local communities. What we are doing may be long-term, but it is certainly realistic," he says.

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As well as providing shade, trees soak up the Sun's heat

Berkeley Laboratory, led by Dr Haider Taha, would like to see minimum reflection levels incorporated into building standards.

Scientists at the Marshall Space Flight Centre will test their ideas from scratch when they help to design the Olympic village in Salt Lake City, which will host the 2004 Winter Games. They intend it to be a "cool community", designed to cope during summer months with the location's mostly dry, hot climate.

Such changes need the support of community, govern-

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Probiotics Flying tips Down in the mouth

Better class of bug

THE MEAT and Livestock Commission is using friendly bacteria to colonise the gut of farm animals to prevent harmful bugs getting a foothold. The hope is that this method, known as probiotics, will prove more effective than existing measures, which have failed, for example, to eliminate salmonella in chickens.



SCIENCE BRIEFING
Nigel Hawkes

"It is early days," says an MLC spokesman, trying to damp down optimism. Actually, it is anything but early days. Earlier this century pioneers such as Elie Metchnikoff popularised sour milk and yoghurt, arguing that they contain lactobacilli, which suppress harmful bacteria in the gut and help us to live longer. The snag is that the lactobacilli are digested in the stomach, and never reach the gut, but yoghurt nonetheless retains a healthy image.

More recently, several companies have developed concoctions of bacteria that can be given to farm animals. The pioneer, says Bernard Dixon in his book *Power Unseen*, a guide to the world of the microbe, was the Finnish scientist Esko Nurmi. In the 1970s he found that some bacteria living in chickens' intestines could prevent invasion by less desirable ones, a process he called "competitive exclusion".

But the idea has never entered the mainstream of veterinary medicine. That may be about to change, to judge by claims made for a new product developed by the US

Department of Agriculture's Animal Protection Research Laboratory in Texas. Scientists there have developed a mixture of 29 types of live bacteria, called Preempt, which is sprayed over newly hatched chicks. The latter ingest the bacterial soup as they groom their feathers. In tests with 80,000 chickens, not one became infected with salmonella. By contrast, reports *Nature Biotechnology*, 7 per cent of control chicks not given the spray became infected.

Preempt consists of intestinal bacteria isolated from adult birds, and is the result of experiments in which a continuously flowing culture was used to simulate conditions in the avian caecum, the part of the digestive system at the junction of the small intestine and the colon.

"If you can prevent salmonella from getting into the caeca, they won't survive in the rest of the gastrointestinal tract," says Dr Donald Corrier, the group leader.

Unlike rival products that are an undefined mixture of bacteria, the US Agriculture Department scientists know exactly what bugs there are in Preempt, and this has enabled them to obtain approval for the product from the Food and Drug Administration. If successful, probiotics could end the dependence on antibiotics in animal husbandry, but we had better not start celebrating just yet. This idea has had so many false starts that another is by no means unlikely.

Squirrel technology soars ahead of Nasa

AIRCRAFT designers were pleased to find that tiny "winglets" attached to the tips of wings and pointing upwards reduced drag. Wind-tunnel tests by engineers from the US space agency Nasa showed a 20 per cent reduction in drag, and a 9 per cent improvement in the wing's lift-to-drag ratio. But it appears that flying squirrels were well ahead of them.

Dr Richard Thorington and colleagues at the Museum of Natural History in Washington examined the anatomy of eight of the 43 species of flying squirrel, and found that they possess a system of muscle and cartilage that raises the tips of their wings when they glide from tree to tree. And, like the Nasa design, they also produce a second, smaller surface, pointing down in front of the winglets, formed by the flexing of their paws. The anatomy of the creatures had been misunderstood by scientists, they say in the *Journal of Mammalogy*.

The technique was perfected before the squirrels diverged into the three lineages that exist today. If so, flying squirrels have been using Nasa's winglets to improve their flight for at least 20 million years.

Gums the target in dental breakthrough

FLUORIDE toothpaste has transformed Britain's teeth in a generation. Now, says Professor Robin Davies of the University of Manchester, the same may be about to happen to gums. As more of us keep our teeth intact as we grow older, the impact of gum disease is likely to increase: more than 80 per cent suffer some degree of it, and 15 to 18 per cent are in danger of losing at least one tooth as a result.

Professor Davies has recently completed a trial of Colgate Total, a toothpaste that contains Triclosan, an antibacterial agent linked to a co-polymer that allows it to stay longer on the surface of the teeth. A three-year trial of 641 adolescents in Manchester, to be published in the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*, showed benefits for those who used Colgate Total, compared with a regular fluoride toothpaste.

Poor gum health has been linked with greater risk of heart disease, so the benefits could spread beyond the mouth. The Manchester results confirm those of a Swedish trial and Professor Davies says: "The trials show a real breakthrough in the battle against gum disease."

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Russia's style revolution

Russia's fashion designers are coming in from the cold, says Style Editor Grace Bradberry

Dull, grey, badly made. For decades that was the image of Russian fashion — the Soviet Union tended to follow the West with a six-year time-lag. Raisa Gorbachev's appearance on the world stage was greeted with exaggerated admiration, but her preference for shoulder pads and gilt buttons scarcely constituted an original fashion statement.

Since then, our only image of Russian fashion has been provided by the mafia wives, who favour Western status labels such as Versace. So when I was approached to be a judge of a Russian fashion competition, the idea was at once whimsical and intriguing. Would it be all shoulder pads and tight skirts, or was there a thriving techno "scene" going on there?



Yelena Zaroubina (left) and her top design

The event was the national heat of the Smirnoff International Fashion Awards, a student competition which takes in 28 countries. The international prize is a year's scholarship for the MA course at the famous Central St Martins. British fashion students are so blasé that only around 200 of them enter. This year there were 800 entrants for the Russian competition, who had been whittled down in regional heats in such places as Nizhny Novgorod and Omsk. The theme, as in every other country, is Metamorphosis and the brief is to produce one creative outfit and one commercial variation.

The venue, the grandly named Count Saltakov's Palace in Moscow, promised great things. Arriving there on the day of the show, I found an imposing yellow building set in a courtyard full of piles of dirty snow. The interior had an institutional feel. The event organisers, Soloviov Victor and Aleksandr Zhukov, led me to a high-ceilinged room in the middle of which was a raised catwalk of the kind that is now

slightly out of fashion in London. Behind them the show's producer barked at a group of models who were rapidly developing sullen expressions of the kind that are fashionable in London.

Victor gave a brief history of the venue — built for Count Saltakov, confiscated by Catherine the Great, now used as an army veterans' club. "Last year we held the show at the KGB Club," he explains. "It was great publicity, but we encountered organisational problems..."

Backstage, the students were huddled into small fitting rooms, alongside their outfits,

vately hope not. Originality is one thing, but fashion is now an international business, requiring a good nose for the next trend. If you don't know about the current trends, you don't stand a chance.

In fact, the students are impressive. Lena Kovaltchuk, 27, from St Petersburg, reveals that her finely knitted fabrics are all home-produced. Her favourite designers are Valentin Yudashkin (an established designer who exhibits during Paris haute couture week as an associate member of the Chambre Syndicale), John Galiano and Issey Miyake. Christina Kondratieva, a 23-year-old from Moscow, goes one better: "Yudashkin saw my collection and appreciated it. He said it had prospects." Inspired by Japanese origami, it has an intricate stole of folded satin.

Kondratieva is from a middle-class family. Her parents now work as research scientists in Detroit, while her husband is a businessman. Other students are not so fortunate. Tatiana Yezhova, 25, is a student at the State Academy of Ivanovo, a textile centre north of Moscow, but her family home is thousands of miles away in the town of Sochi on the Black Sea. "My father died when I was young, and my mother made clothes for people in the town. My sister and I have been sewing since kindergarten and began making money from it as soon as we could. While the Communists were in power, it was hard to get hold of magazines, but with what was available we would make copies for people. But as I grew older I wanted to come up with my own designs." Her grant is around £8 a month and she still sews to make ends meet. Her favourite designer is Vivienne Westwood. "I like clothes that show some individuality, and I admire her."

As the show approaches, the atmosphere becomes slightly hysterical. Anna Polukhina has created a tight corset of pleated white silk, with white leathers inserted into the pleats to create wings. Unfortunately, the model is not of the angelic type. Polukhina, a star student at the Moscow Textile Academy, grimaces as she tries to shoe-horn the strapping lass into her costume.

It is just another in a series of frustrations. "A year ago I was carried away by Mariano Fortuny, a designer from the turn of the century who invented pleated silk," she explains. "I tried to do the same with fabric, but I found it impossible to achieve the effect. Eventually, one of my teachers helped me to find a fabric in a village shop outside Moscow." She also says that she admires Nicolas Chesquiere, the new designer at Balenciaga. This is impressive — there are fashion editors who have barely heard his name.

In fact, Polukhina comes second. The winner is Yelena Zaroubina, a 21-year-old Moscow student who comes up with a grey felt-wool design.



Designs on the future: Russian students may be less in touch with international trends than their British counterparts, but are just as creative



Back in the USSR: Slava Zaitsev, the designer often credited with dressing Raisa Gorbachev, is popular with the new generation of students

with an avant-garde edge — very Japanese. "I only found out about the Japanese connection afterwards when I saw a picture of a kimono belt," she says.

Not everyone on the judging panel, which includes a couple of Russian magazine editors, agrees. But Alexander Ignand, the oldest, is extremely pleased. Ignand used to design for Leonid Brezhnev, and relishes the creativity of the students.



Christina Kondratieva, right, and her intricate stole inspired by Japanese origami

There used to be a lot of restrictions. Each fashion house worked under a Central Party Committee which would inspect the collection and make recommendations. It didn't stop us — a creative person can never be stopped — but it made it difficult. And what of the restrictions imposed by Brezhnev himself? "He had strong tastes, but it did not interfere in my creative work." The following day, I call on Elena Doletskaya, the editor of Russian Vogue, due to be launched in September. What did she think of the winning outfit? "Loved it. Sort of Yohji-like," she says, referring to the Japanese designer Yohji Yamamoto. Asked about leading Russian designers, Doletskaya produces a carefully researched list, which includes such names as Tatiana Parfionova, from St Petersburg, who uses a lot of silks, and Alexei Grekoff, whose style is similar to Armani.

But for the most part, wealthy Russian women favour Western designers, and often go for a head-to-toe look. "It started when Versace opened a shop here," says Doletskaya. "Women really went for it. Then Gucci arrived. But women here don't understand that if you wear nothing but Gucci, then you become a Gucci person, rather than an individual."

The opening of malls such as Passage and Manege is gradually changing that, as women find they can shop in several stores without braving the Moscow traffic.

Katharina Flohr, the magazine's German/Canadian fashion director, says that wealthy Russian women do not dress as you might expect: "I went to a ballet premiere and expected red lips and platinum heels; instead I found women wearing MaxMara, Armani, and little make-up. The women are rather beautiful here, and well groomed."

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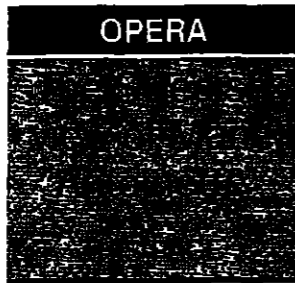
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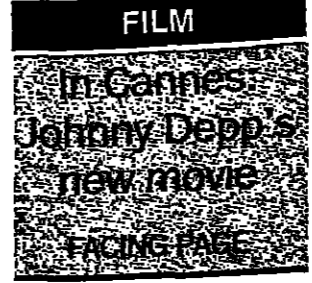
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THE TIMES ARTS



A revolution could soon be televised

Television and Damascus are an unlikely coupling. Cable television and arts programmes seem almost equally ill-matched. Yet I am now totally persuaded that the multiplication of channels could be the biggest boon to arts programmes there has ever been.

Until quite recently, I was typical of my generation — a product of the Thatcher duopoly who wrung his hands over the proliferation of channels, a Jeremiah who prophesied that more would inevitably lead to worse. For me the containment of the culture on four terrestrial channels was the best of all possible worlds. Quality, audiences, standards, all were guaranteed by the funding and structure and talent base of these four screen golems. Then times changed — and now I have changed with them.

We are in the multichannel future. Cable channels will grow and develop and the terrestrial channels — now five — although they will still dominate are no longer the only game in town. More importantly, the game has changed radically.

I used to fear change and call down all manner of dire consequences. But I was merely ralling — and, more importantly, I was wrong. I failed to see the opportunities.

Television arts programmes have always suffered from lack of airtime. There have been too few programmes, and those few usually forced to be generalist in the range of their content. Time's strictures have been draconian: a documentary must not be more than 60 uncommercial or 52 commercial minutes. Within these limitations good and sometimes memorable work has been done. But the restriction has been stifling. There are far too many unmade programmes, far too many suggestions of a very high

calibre which land on my desk alone for which there is no transmission space. There are whole reaches of the arts which have scarcely been explored.

Compare this with print. When television had its four terrestrial channels, print had literally hundreds of varied "channels" — newspapers, magazines and publishing houses which led to station bookstalls looking like an Aladdin's cave of varied reading treasures. Now we in television can also have the variety print has. Hundreds of new channels will be available soon on a screen in your room. Rationing is over.

I used to regard this with disdain and gloom. Did not the American Experience "prove" that multichannels led to multiplication of the lowest common denominator? It could — but it need not. Our experiences and traditions are



different from American television and one of the differences is that on mainstream television here, and even on the most commercial channels, we have kept a strong arts presence for decades. The

British public is used to having those programmes around. They are watched in numbers which are the envy of any satellite or cable channel. It is a reasonable assumption that over 40 years they have established a taste, even a habit. But they have only begun. They have been imprisoned in the generalist system.

In the world of print, you have journals whose readership can be 100,000 or even 50,000 and still make a modest profit. People are willing to pay for this specialist interest. Such figures have hitherto simply not been on the agenda of people who make television programmes. We also know that catering for a specialist interest can be very profitable — football is the leading example — and there is no reason why this should not apply to the arts. The key, I think, is not to be generalist.

To take one area, consider literature. Book clubs flourish, small magazines and publishing houses keep in business, the support and the passion is there and, although the numbers are small, they could be sufficient in the new world of multiple channels and cheap channels.

If there were a channel devoted entirely to books (not expensive to produce, not difficult to organise), like the book pages of this newspaper, it could have a fair chance of attracting a decent audience. There would be reviews, readings, discussions, interviews, talks, all the stuff which makes book festivals such a success these days. Is it inconceivable that a number of people would be prepared to lay out a modest sum to subscribe were this channel to be well cast and well run? The same

would apply to a dedicated opera channel and for dance, for film, theatre and so on. People follow their cultural tastes very loyally and there is plenty of evidence that they are happy to follow them on television. What we need to know urgently is how many people might subscribe to such dedicated channels.

I think that the aim of securing a modest profit is essential. It would be difficult here to plead for subsidy for these channels and perhaps they would be more vigorous without it. Research is urgently needed to find out whether the numbers are there and make sense. If this can be got under way then we could be in a position quite soon to set up, say, half a dozen channels, each one using television to carry and nourish the arts beyond our wildest previous ambitions.

I think we may be the best, if not the only, country able to move in this direction — and surely it is an opportunity which cannot be missed.

Bourbon cream

Dotness is not unknown in opera, but this single guest performance of Daniel Börtz's *Marie Antoinette* (at the Dome), lavishly sponsored by the telecommunications giant Ericsson, really is doty. It's a very good new opera, given more than 50 sold-out performances in Stockholm. Folksoperan is an extraordinary company, a sort of Swedish equivalent of our Opera Factory and CBTO rolled into one; and the production is superb — surely it deserved more than just one showing in Britain. But the supreme dotness of opera is that the more performances you give, the more money you lose.

Clas Fellbom's libretto — he also directs — tells the story of the Swedish nobleman Axel Fersen's love affair with the Queen of France. The construction is admirably, indeed cinematically fluid, opening with preparations for the lynching of Fersen in Stock-

BRIGHTON FESTIVAL: A grand new Swedish opera about the French Revolution; plus a Neil Bartlett epic

holm in 1810, flashing backwards and forwards to their first meeting and various historical events, climaxing three hours later with the Queen's guillotining and Fersen being beaten to death. Unsurprisingly, given the provenance, it seems to be told from Fersen's point of view: he is a noble and unselfish operatic hero, she starts as an airhead who actually goes to sing "let them eat cake", but develops through adversity into a tragic heroine. Maybe the moral is that to become a complete human being you need to take a Swedish lover.

The opera is crowded with event: we get the Flight to Varennes, the women's march on Versailles, the diamond necklace scandal, the opera-

funded than any UK equivalent: lavish costumes and wigs (Mathias Clason), an elaborate set (Werner Hutterl) that gave Fellbom the fluidity he needed, and plainly a generous rehearsal period. Swedish singers — and not just Söderström — must be the envy of the world: they are not allowed on stage unless they can act as well as they sing.

Ole Persson was the charismatic Fersen, Katarina Nilsson guided us on Marie Antoinette's journey with total conviction, Marianne Ekblom was the scheming mezzo and Fredrik Zetterström the endearingly hapless Louis XVI. The supporting cast of 16 and the energetic chorus were excellent, while the conductor Kerstin Nerbe led a disciplined performance from her orchestra under the stage. All this effort and accomplishment for just one performance. Simply doty...

RODNEY MILNES



Seven Sacraments duo: the choreographer Leah Hausman and actor Neil Bartlett

Talent in the raw

The young Bulgarian mezzo Vesselina Kasarova — a much admired Zerlina and Rosina of late — has one of the most immediately distinctive voices on the circuit. Its basso profundo is linked to a searing head voice, and these registers are projected with a nervy, raw intensity more often found in world music.

So — Schubert? If the composer's anniversary year taught us anything, it should have been that there are as many different ways of approaching his Lied as there are songs themselves. At the Wigmore Hall, with her pianist Friedrich Haider setting a jaunty pace, Kasarova's *Wanderer an den Mond* was a haunted, almost malevolent nocturnal. And in all the songs the listener was tossed from admiration of Kasarova's fresh, ardent responses and fascination with her vocal pungency to dismay at eccentricities of execution.

In Brahms's *Der Frühling*, for example, Kasarova's penchant for dynamic extremes could lead to an ill-supported crooning at the quietest moments, and shrill outbursts wherever an exclamation mark was spotted. Her voice shouldn't be tamed. But it does need to be manipulated more discriminatingly.

HILARY FINCH

An agnostic in search of faith

Nobody watching the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, will doubt that a great religious ceremony still carries profound emotional force. That, however, was a unique national occasion. Can the ancient liturgies and majestic language of the Book of Common Prayer still play any part in ordinary, private lives in the late 20th century?



The Anglican Church itself sometimes seems dubious. But *Seven Sacraments* — a new oratorio by the writer and actor Neil Bartlett, composer Nicolas Bloomfield and choreographer Leah Hausman — makes touching, wry and intriguing drama out of that awkward junction between centuries-old Christian ritual and modern scepticism.

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Wild ride

Vertical text on the far right edge of the page, partially cut off.



Johnny Depp (left) and Benicio Del Toro in Terry Gilliam's *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, in competition at this year's Cannes Film Festival

Wild ride at the festival

From lechery on the campaign trail to love in Glasgow:
Geoff Brown reviews the opening films at Cannes

Cannes in May. An invasion happens and the redoubtable ladies who walk their poodles are suddenly joined by a million extra people squeezing through the streets, each one bearing a trilling mobile phone. Colossal billboards rise along the Croisette advertising Hollywood blockbusters, schlockbusters and everything in between. And everyone you meet has a movie to buy, sell, see, or talk about. The Cannes Film Festival is in town.

Some films, by their titles, do not sound promising. Any takers for *Archibald the Rainbow Painter*, or *The Wisdom of Crocodiles*? At the moment many of them exist only on paper, though if you wish to invest in *Chips*, *Tis* and *Red Silex*, I'm sure flying Machine Films would be delighted to hear from you.

And under the bright lights of the film world's king and queens, the beggars and thieves, ascend the red carpet to see a new movie every night for 12 days. The first official offering was *Primary Colours*. Hollywood's soft-centred treatment of the novel by "Anonymous" that cloaks Clinton's first presidential campaign in satirical fictional garb. There are a few things to admire in Mike Nichols's direction, and the performances of John Travolta (the would-be President with the roving eye), Emma Thompson, Kathy Bates and British stage actor Adrian Lester. But instead of increasing its topicality, the media fandango over Monica Lewinsky and friends has given the film all the freshness of last year's milk. *Wag the Dog* packed a much greater

satirical punch; with this dog, the tail hangs limp.

Hollywood returns at the end of the official festival programme with the presentation of *Godzilla*, the summer's big monster movie. In the meantime, audiences are watching the hard stuff. There is new work by Festival regulars Ken Loach and Theo Angelopoulos. Ingmar Bergman has a TV film on display. An 18-year-old Iranian is making her directorial debut. And reel upon reel of celluloid is intent on showing how miserably mixed-up all of us are.

Then there is *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, a deflating freerack of a film. Terry Gilliam, its director, has never been one for the dull, quiet plod, and his tendency to visual excess reaches its zenith in this adaptation of Hunter S. Thompson's celebrated novel of 1971. Thompson's surrogate, played by Johnny Depp, rides through the American dream through the American dream seasons pizza.

After Gilliam blowing his top, what relief to find Ken Loach keeping his cool, cinematically speaking, in *My Name Is Joe*. Again there is an audibility problem: the male characters' Scottish accents were so thick at times that you sometimes had to read the French subtitles to grasp what was said. But there was no doubting the simple heartwarming power of this story about the difficult birth of a love relationship in a depressed corner of Glasgow between an alcoholic on the wagon and a health visitor proud of her independence.

Warning picture of an age when the American dream was becoming a nightmare. Gilliam's point and perspective are confused; and a few dips into archive footage of 1960s events are scarcely enough to anchor the frenzy. Of course, I might feel differently about the film had I not

warning picture of an age when the American dream was becoming a nightmare. Gilliam's point and perspective are confused; and a few dips into archive footage of 1960s events are scarcely enough to anchor the frenzy. Of course, I might feel differently about the film had I not

Warning picture of an age when the American dream was becoming a nightmare. Gilliam's point and perspective are confused; and a few dips into archive footage of 1960s events are scarcely enough to anchor the frenzy. Of course, I might feel differently about the film had I not

Terry Gilliam has never been one for the dull, quiet plod

seen it on a day when the only dangerous substance my body absorbed was a lacklustre four seasons pizza.

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Inspired by the blue skies above

GIVEN that so many of today's songwriters are inclined to look down into the murky darkness below for inspiration, it made a pleasant change to witness a show by an intelligent pop group whose gaze more naturally turns towards the blue skies above. "I'm dying to get the sun in my hair... I'm going to breathe the country air," Sarah Cracknell sang in the chorus of *Split Screen*, the second number of the group's set at the Shepherd's Bush Empire on Friday. With its clipped, cowbell-assisted beat and sleek (synthesized) horn arrangement, the song was easy on the ear but by no means empty, setting a tone for the show ahead that was part aspirational blueprint and part escapist daydream.

Saint Etienne have been around for ages, on and off, and as pop groups go they have been more critically admired than most. They were shortlisted for the Mercury Music Prize in 1992 and have proved a defining influence on newer, lesser groups such as Dusted and the Cardigans. Yet the really big breakthrough remains elusive, and Saint Etienne's latest album, *Good Humor*, has so far only just scraped into the Top 20.

But as this brisk, beguiling performance confirmed, they have never sounded better. The keyboard players, Bob Stanley and Pete Wiggs, the nucleus of the group, remain two of the most anonymous performers ever allowed on to

POP

Saint Etienne
Empire, W12

a major-league stage. But they were joined here by a full complement of "proper" musicians — playing bass, drums, guitar and more keyboards — as well as two female backing singers who gyrated in an endearingly uncoordinated fashion at the back.

The focus of attention, as usual, was the divine Ms Cracknell, although even she struggled to register her blonde presence amid an unflattering lightshow dominated by dim washes of mulberry, purple and pink. Wearing a black bustier and tight-fitting cream trousers, she radiated a cool, remote glamour, as she sang in a voice that was pretty, but at times brittle and fragile.

A speedy turnover of songs, mostly from the new album, ensured a pleasing momentum, especially during a stretch including the seductive harmony chorus of *Wanted*, the Motown-meets-Ladbroke-Grove soul of *The Bad Photographer* and the twisty funk of *Goodnight Jack*. They finished with the old hit *He's On The Phone* and *Hobart Paving*, and departed as they had performed: without fanfare but with a straightforward charm.

This week in THE TIMES



Bonnie Langford works the floor in a revival of the musical *Sweet Charity*
OPENS: Tuesday
REVIEW: Thursday



Can Richard Ashcroft and his Britpop band The Verve set Dublin alight?
GIG: Tuesday
REVIEW: Thursday



Philip Glass explores light and sound in *Monsters of Grace* at the Barbican
OPENS: Tuesday
REVIEW: Thursday



Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker puts boots on Bartók at the QEH
OPENS: Thursday
REVIEW: Next week

PLUS: Tonight, the Royal Opera opens Puccini's *La rondine* at the Albert Hall

Hearts in flower

DEIGNED plays are notoriously difficult balancing acts, particularly in actor-led companies whose tendency towards self-indulgent posturing is a direct result of the liberation from the directorial leash. This used to be the case with the members of the Glasgow company Raindog, who wore their working-class credentials like a gauntlet and for whom Method was clearly madness. But, while age has hardly mellowed their collective defiance, it has disciplined it, if this new big-scale work is any sort of barometer.

Knocked together in a goosacking five weeks, *Love, Lies, Bleeding* is set in that great Saturday night arena so beloved of soap operas, the pub. Situated in one of the housing schemes of Glasgow's Roman Catholic heartland, the absurdly named Vegas — which plays New York — is a place where everybody not only knows your name, but your business too. Perfectly captured in Kenny Miller's tiled, glitter-ball set, from opening time to closing time all life walks through it, hoping for better things, a way out, or just a good time.

Enter Dan and Nancy, both having lost their spouses some years before and seemingly in mourning ever since. They strike up a clandestine affair, keeping their distance lest the neighbours cast aspersions. It is the sort of love that is denied Nancy's sister-in-law Didi, whose daughter Francis has

THEATRE

Love, Lies, Bleeding
Glasgow

hooked up with Clark Kentish drip TC, who is more Rubberman than Superman once the drinks take hold. Add to this a hilarious pair of "psychic artists" cabaret entertainers who inadvertently conjure up the spirits of Nancy and Dan's dead but disappearing spouses, and things are set for a pint glass out of secrets to come spilling out.

Served up in broad brushstrokes drawn by *Hamish Macbeth* writer Daniel Boyle and director Stuart Davis may overstep the point at times, but give weight to Vegas's static dreamworld. While there are obvious rough edges, Boyle has done a remarkable job making things as cohesive as they are with a cast of 12 led by Sean Scanlan and Barbara Rafferty as Dan and Nancy. And, while there is a lingering sense of the company's self-importance, better vaulting ambition than humblebrag underachievement. For *Love, Lies, Bleeding* is a cry from the heart as sentimental and in search of redemption as anything that other place of dreams, Hollywood, has to offer.

DAVID SINCLAIR

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UNDER THE SKIN OF SPORT

OPENING GAMBIT

England throw down gauntlet for Texaco Trophy

PAGE 33

JUST TRAMPTON

Andrew leads Newcastle to rugby's premier title

PAGE 29

PAR FOR THE COURSE

Clarke finds winning formula at The Oxfordshire

PAGE 28

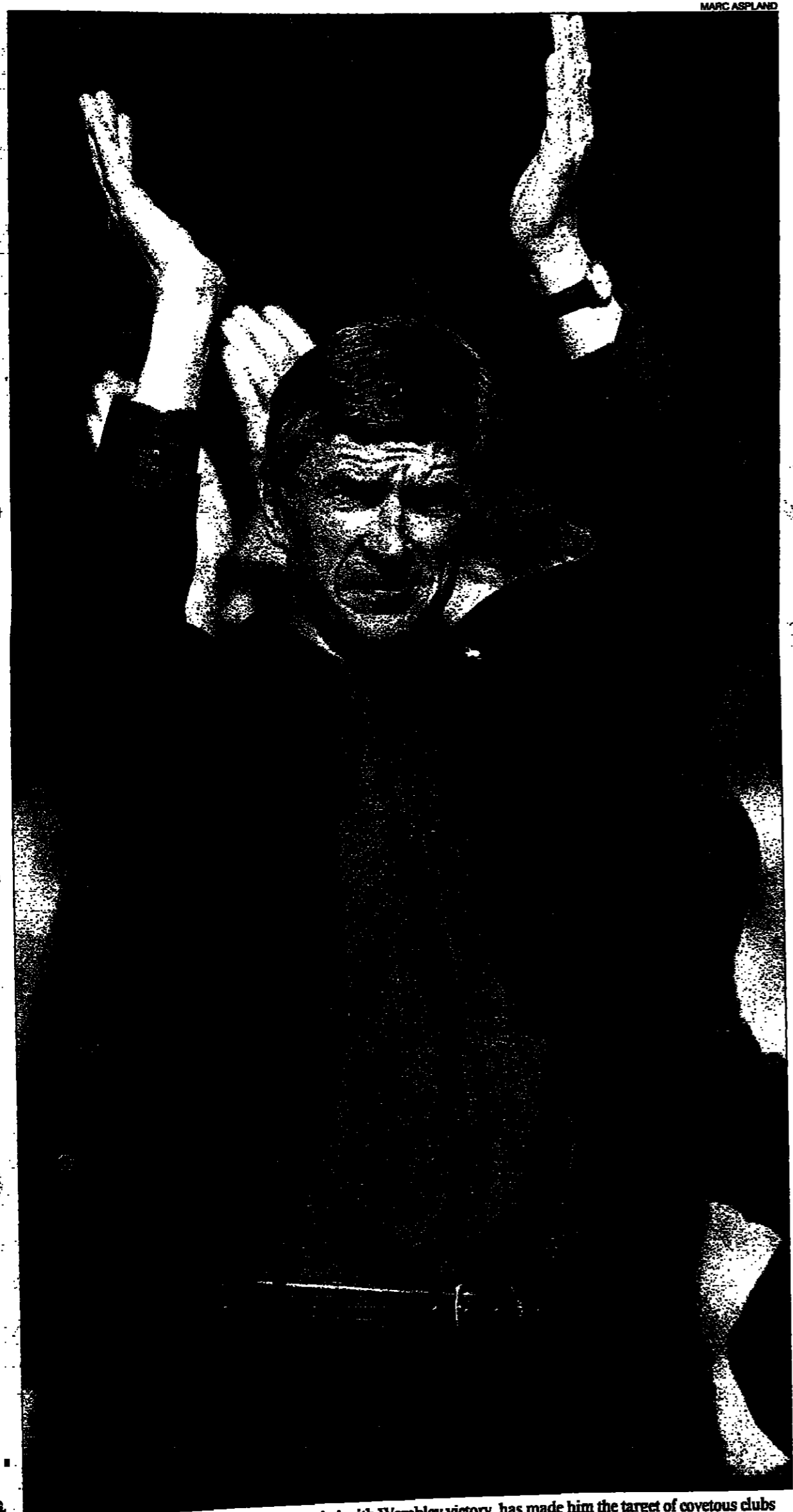


TIMES SPORT

15 PAGES

MONDAY MAY 18 1998

WENGER SET TO REAP REWARDS OF HISTORIC TRIUMPH



Men in red: Arsenal's Cup Final triumph over Newcastle United prompted a riot of colourful and deserved celebrations

Arsenal ready to act on £6m double bill

By OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

WHEN Tony Adams climbed the steps in the shimmering light of late afternoon, he paused for a second as he took the trophy in his hands and planted a gentle kiss on it. Then, when he held it up for the scarlet hordes away to his right, they turned their faces and their outstretched hands to him like a great field of sunflowers reaching for the sun.

For endless moments of joy and near-delirium, they bathed in the warming glow that is emanating from Highbury, the beneficent heat that has captured the best of life in the FA Carling Premiership and shown all the doubters and xenophobes that the polyglot team bound together so cleverly and carefully by Arsène Wenger is the path to the future.

If winning the championship two weeks ago had been Arsenal's accession, then their comfortable victory over Newcastle United in the FA Cup Final on Saturday that clinched the Double was their coronation, an exuberant affair still, but something that was more a time for acclamation and recognition of a job masterfully done.

As a match, perhaps, it was an anticlimax. Matches with Newcastle, sadly, have rarely been anything else this season. But as confirmation of what Wenger has achieved in the mere 18 months that he has been at the club, as a testimony to his melding of English with French and Dutch, his knitting of old and new, it was the perfect happy ending.

Wenger acknowledged as much with a wry smile. "Tomorrow, I will go home and not come back," he replied when

he was asked how he could improve on his achievement. "I will let another take over."

An hour later, though, the future of the manager who had just led Arsenal to the second Double in their distinguished 112-year history was being discussed in rather more serious tones. The club is acutely aware that the man who has revitalised them has only one year left on his contract and has already been the subject of interest from other parties.

Rumours abound that Wenger and the Arsenal vice-chairman, David Dein, the man responsible for his appointment, have already reached informal agreement on a new five-year deal for the French coach that would earn him £5 million and make him the highest-paid coach in the Premiership.

As he stood in the banquetting hall at Wembley, though, Dein admitted that Arsenal faced a fight to keep their man. The

French Football Association is thought to be one of the interested parties now that its overtures towards Jean Tigana and Alain Giresse appear to have been rejected and there have also been inquiries from two leading European clubs, one of which may be AC Milan.

"Arsène has not actually come to us to tell us about these offers," Dein said, "but we are aware that he is one of the hottest properties in the game now and that the offers are coming in. It goes without saying that we are determined to keep him and we are talking to him and we know that he wants to stay with us. I think he is comfortable at Arsenal. Nobody gets involved in team affairs except for him."

"We felt vilified at the time we brought him in because the knives were out for us and we had to have the courage of our convictions. A lot of people are very insular and really did not

know anything about the European market. We appointed him because we felt that he was going to be the manager that would put the club back where it belonged, which is at the top." Wenger himself was not in the mood to speculate. He said that as long as the working conditions at Highbury suited him, as long as he had the freedom to operate as he wanted, then he saw no reason why he would not sign a new contract. He said there was no hurry and that he would sit down and start talking about a new deal soon.

We have heard that before, of course, in that protracted and ultimately cursed dialogue between Ken Bates and Rudi Gutten at Chelsea, but there is no reason to think that this will end the same way. Wenger may find himself in demand, but he admitted that he thought this might be the start of a brave new era for Arsenal and he will want to be at the helm.

He is already planning signings, too. "The first thing is that I want to keep the players we have now," he said. "Then, at least, I know we will not be any weaker. We are not close to signing anyone yet but I would like to do it before the World Cup, not after." He may move closer to those signings when he attends the European Cup final between Juventus and Real Madrid in Amsterdam on Wednesday. Happy endings are one thing, but to the relief of Arsenal supporters everywhere, Wenger seems more intent on new beginnings.

Match report, page 31
Rob Hughes, page 31
Lynne Truss, page 32

THE ARSENAL SIDE OF HONOUR	
CHAMPIONSHIPS	1991, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998
FA CUPS	1950, 1955, 1956, 1971, 1979, 1993, 1998
LEAGUE CUPS	1987, 1993
LEAGUE TROPHIES	1970
EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS	1994
STADIUMS	1889: Preston North End 1897: Aston Villa 1961: Tottenham Hotspur 1971: Arsenal 1996: Liverpool 1994: Manchester United 1996: Manchester United 1998: Arsenal

Man in black: Wenger's achievement, sealed with Wembley victory, has made him the target of covetous clubs

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GOLF: SECOND SUCCESSIVE 67 SEALS VICTORY AS LACKLUSTRE MONTGOMERIE FALTERS IN FINAL ROUND

Clarke takes clear-cut chance with both hands

By MEL WEBB

OVER the years, Darren Clarke has demonstrated an uncanny and consistent talent for allowing victory chances to drift away but yesterday he went some way towards redressing the balance when a performance of power and grace under pressure brought him the Benson and Hedges International Open title with a total of 273, 15 under par.



Clarke follows the progress of his tee-shot at the 6th in his near-perfect round of 67 at The Oxfordshire yesterday

SCORES

LEADING FINAL SCORES (Great Britain and Ireland unless stated): 273: D Clarke 70, 68, 67, 67, 278: S Lut (Sp) 69, 71, 69, 67, 277: T Blom (Den) 68, 74, 68, 67, M Fiorini (It) 68, 67, 71, 71, 276: R Coogan (SA) 71, 68, 71, 66, C Montgomerie 69, 68, 69, 72, 275: M Moulton 70, 70, 70, 69, R Davis (Aus) 70, 70, 70, 69, P Sjöberg (Swe) 67, 72, 69, 72, G Turner (NZ) 72, 67, 68, 71, 280: J M O'Connell (Ire) 72, 70, 70, 68, B Davis 69, 70, 72, 69, P Lewis 67, 73, 70, 70, G Evans 67, 71, 68, 73, 281: P Price 69, 67, 73, 72, S May (US) 71, 67, 71, 72, P Shergold (Nor) 69, 68, 71, 73, 282: A Sherrin 69, 75, 70, 69, S Croke 69, 71, 71, 71, Wootton 71, 70, 70, 71, B Lane 69, 68, 75, 72, P Mitchell 74, 68, 69, 71, R Clayton 69, 73, 67, 73

victory by three shots from Santiago Luján. Thomas Bjorn and Florini were one shot further back while Montgomerie had a lacklustre round of 72 to finish tied for fifth with Retief Goosen.

Hackney quietly states her case

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

THE whole of Korea was primed to go wild if Se Ri Pak, a 20-year-old from Daegu, just south of Seoul, won the McDonald's LPGA championship at the DuPont country club here yesterday.

and most people expect the giggly, gifted girl to fulfill expectations and trigger an explosion of excitement and publicity to match the aftermath of Tiger Woods's Augusta exploits. She may be young, but she is far from inexperienced and has already won six professional events at home.

SCORES

LEADERS AFTER THREE ROUNDS (United States unless stated): 206: Se Ri Pak (S Kor) 65, 68, 72, L Hackney (GB) 70, 66, 69, 207: C Johnson 68, 71, 67, E Klein 72, 67, 66, W Ward 71, 67, 69, D Andrews 71, 67, 69, 208: K Robbins 68, 71, 69, M Makin 71, 69, 69, J Goodies 69, 69, 70, L Walters (Can) 73, 66, 69, 210: T Green 72, 68, 70, J Inkester 70, 71, 69, 211: K Webb (Aus) 71, 73, 67, J Liebke (Ger) 70, 73, 68, J Morley (GB) 73, 69, 69, C Johnston-Forbes 71, 70, 70, A DeLuca 70, 70, 71, 212: C Mathew (GB) 74, 70, 69, C Mearns (Swe) 69, 73, 70, P Hursi 71, 73, 68, P Bradley 72, 73, 67, Other scores: 215: D Bernard (GB) 72, 74, 69, A Somers (Swe) 73, 71, 71, I Neumann (Swe) 73, 69, 73, H Dobson (GB) 76, 70, 70, 217: L Davies (GB) 72, 73, 72, J Moodie (GB) 73, 69, 73, A Nicholas (GB) 73, 71, 73, 220: C McEllan (GB) 73, 72, 75.



Hackney, who shared the championship lead yesterday

SPORT IN BRIEF

Doohan remains dominant in Italy

■ MOTOR CYCLING: Michael Doohan, of Australia, won his sixth successive 500cc Italian Grand Prix yesterday while Max Biaggi, of Italy, finished second to extend his world championship lead. Doohan started on pole but Biaggi, in his first season on 500cc bikes, took the early lead in front of 60,000 fans at the Mugello circuit in Tuscany.

Parker has field day

■ AMERICAN FOOTBALL: An extraordinary finish allowed the Scottish Claymores to sneak a 27-24 win over the England Monarchs at Murrayfield yesterday (Richard Wetherell writes). A 27-yard field goal by Gary Parker with 1min 17sec remaining levelled the game and the Claymores got the ball back when they recovered a fumble by Josh LaRocca, the Monarchs quarterback. With four seconds left, Parker's 25-yard match-winning attempt was blocked, but the Monarchs were penalised and the tiny Scot made no mistake from 21 yards.

Copeland called up

■ HOCKEY: Maggie Souyave, the England coach, sprang her first surprise of the World Cup campaign when she called up Lisa Copeland, the Slough defender, to replace Mandy Nicholls, the midfielder who broke her thumb in a 5-2 defeat by Australia on Thursday. Copeland flew out to join the squad in Utrecht on Saturday. Tina Cullen, the Hightown captain, is also fighting a race against time to prove her fitness after breaking her jaw. Sarah Blanks, of Leicester, is on standby to replace her.

Pair claims double

■ ROWING: Great Britain came home with four golds, five silvers and two bronze medals from the Duisburg Regatta, Germany. The star crew were Dot Blackie and Cath Bishop, in the women's pairs, who won gold yesterday and on Saturday, twice coming through in the last 500 metres to take the lead from Russia. The two other golds were won by the women's eight and the women's lightweight double on Saturday.

Oxford run close

■ ATHLETICS: Oxford University had just two points to spare when winning the University athletics match at Ilffey Road, Oxford, on Saturday. A middle-distance double by Andrew Hennessy in the 3,000 metres steeplechase and 1,500 metres proved crucial for Oxford but they were also helped by two Cambridge disqualifications. The Light Blues won the women's match comfortably, helped by victories from Rebecca Lewis in the 200 metres, long jump, shot and javelin.

Berriman triumphs

■ FENCING: Quentin Berriman won his fourth consecutive British épée title at Hendon Police College on Saturday, easily pushing the surprise challenger, Simon Laight, into second place by 15-9. In the women's championship, Georgina Usher decisively retained the title with compelling performances. As with Berriman, no opponent reached double-figures against Usher.

Azzuro riding high

■ POLO: Stefan Marsaglia's squad, Azzuro, beat LUC 6-4 in the first knockout match of the Dollar Cup at the Cowdray Park club yesterday. Azzuro got off to a fine start when the well-adjusted partnership of the six-handicap Mauricio Devrient Kidd, of Argentina, and his No 2, Justin Gaunt, put them into a 2-0 lead by the middle of the first chukka. The tournament continues at Midhurst tomorrow afternoon.

MOTOR RACING

Rydell goes ahead in title chase

TOM WALKINSHAW, head of the Formula One team, TWR, Arrows, was given something to smile about yesterday when Rickard Rydell, his Volvo driver, went to the top of the British touring car championship title chase with a double victory at Brands Hatch.

TENNIS

Costa's withdrawal presents Italian championship to Rios

THE wrist injury sustained by Albert Costa, of Spain, in the semi-finals on Saturday prevented him from contesting the Italian Open final here yesterday. Thus, Marcelo Rios, a beaten finalist last year, won his fourth title of 1998 without striking a ball, the second consecutive ATP Tour final to be affected. Ironically, Costa benefited in Hamburg last week, when Alex Corretja, trailing 2-6, 0-6, 0-2, withdrew because of exhaustion and a stomach virus.

CYCLING

Illingworth shines for Brite again

AFTER leading a 1-2-3 clean sweep for Team Brite in the prologue time-trial of the British Sugar Silver Spoon on Saturday, Matthew Illingworth held his lead throughout for overall victory yesterday at the end of the 171-mile race near Eakring, Nottinghamshire.

Martinez ends the long wait

IT HAS been quite a weekend for Conchita Martínez. Although hardly old at the age of 26, she has spent the past 48 hours overcoming the challenge of the young pretenders. On Saturday she taught Anna Kournikova a swift lesson in dealing with pressure, success and expectation, and yesterday she spent a little longer putting Amelie Mauresmo, of France, in her place to win the German Open title.

IG INDEX SPORT advertisement featuring a large graphic of a trophy and the text 'WIN A MILLION ON THE WORLD CUP'. It includes details about betting on the World Cup, a coupon to request more information, and contact information for IG Index.

Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, partially cut off. It features the text 'Newcastle stoop to conquer' and 'Mapleoft Bath ott steals rare of their Gloucester away in'. There is also a small logo for 'Lee's' at the bottom.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page: 'مكتبة من الأصيل'

Title goes to Tyneside as emphatic victory over Harlequins deprives Saracens of double

Newcastle stoop to conquer

Harlequins.....20 Newcastle.....44

By DAVID HANDS RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WHEN the final whistle sounded, Rob Andrew went straight to the touchline, to the pair with whom he left Waspas for the North East...

ful manner. It was not that Harlequins did not compete; they did, with skill and enthusiasm...



Allied forces: the final whistle brings the Premiership title and joy unconfined to Newcastle yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

the encouragement of a try. Instead, they could only admire Armstrong's flip behind his back...

from a tapped penalty, but it was no more than a gesture. There were three more shots left in the Newcastle locker...

dummies, sent Lam to the line. Andrew chipped over a penalty, and the Newcastle forwards battered the line before Armstrong wriggled his way under the cover...

which will be here for a long time," Andrew said. "We are creating something new, ourselves and Saracens..."



Sir John Hall, the Newcastle chairman, joins in the celebrations

Andrew quick to rule out repeat

By DAVID HANDS

ROB ANDREW may have taken Newcastle to the title at the first attempt but yesterday he discounted his prospects of repeating the feat next season...

Mapletoft steals rare Gloucester away win

By OUR SPORT STAFF

MARK MAPLETOFT snatched a dramatic 24-22 injury-time victory for Gloucester with a penalty goal at Northampton...

Bath offer glimpse of their true ability

Wasps.....17 Bath.....31

By ALAN PEAREY

FOR Bath fans, a further glimpse of what might have been for a quarter of an hour at Loftus Road yesterday...

Moriarty inspires Swansea to title

Pontypridd.....27 Swansea.....45

By GERALD DAVIES

HAVING won the Welsh League title in 1992 and 1994, Swansea did so for the third time on Saturday...

Back hurls himself into battle again

London Irish.....16 Leicester.....55

By PETER BILLS

BRITISH Army generals used to build their careers on the willingness of young men like Neil Back to offer themselves as cannon-fodder...

Barbarians defend sevens title in style

By BARRY TROWBRIDGE

THE Barbarians added an extra dimension to their 1997 blend of excellence in the finals of the Middlesex Charity Sevens at Twickenham...

Lee's dismissal allows Bristol to supply late rally

London Scottish.....29 Bristol.....25

By MARK SOUSTER

THERE may only be two miles between the Stoop Memorial Ground and the Athletic Ground...

fractious second half. The full back punched David Corkery and was sent off. Lee was due to miss the second leg of the play-offs and fly out tomorrow on the Scotland tour...

coming into the line at speed from full back. However, three London Scottish tries in 13 minutes, each converted by Lee, turned the game on its head...



Lee sent off for punching

and set off down the right with Cameron in support. The fly half fed Rob Hunter and then looped round for the return pass and the try...

FA Cup Final: Bergkamp is not missed as another Dutchman picks up his mantle

Overmars provides the driving force

ARSENAL 2 NEWCASTLE 0



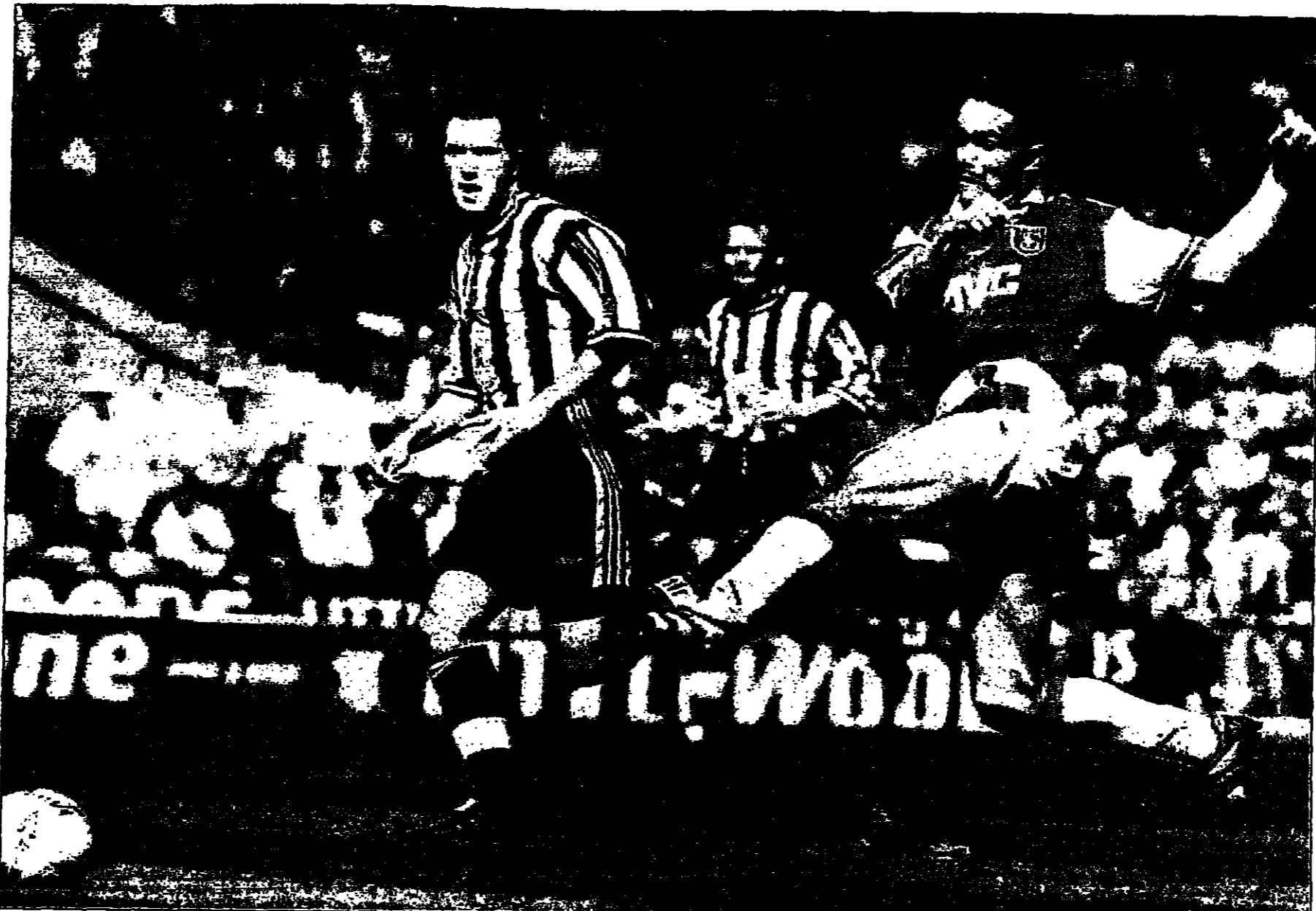
Overmars 23 Anelka 69

BY OLIVER HOLT FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

WHEN the final whistle had gone and Arsene Wenger had leapt off the bench in that celebration that has become so familiar to English football in the past few weeks, Marc Overmars clutched the water bottle that had been thrown to him, poured some of the cold liquid over his parched lips and then sprayed the rest of it over his team-mates in a great arc. In the sunlight, it fell over them like stardust.

Deprived of one flying Dutchman, Arsenal had turned to another at Wembley on Saturday afternoon and had traced the tracks of Overmars's scorched heels all the way to the Double, the second in the club's long history after their success in 1971. Just as he had embarrassed Des Walker when he played against England for Holland five years ago, so he ate up Wembley's wide acres again at the weekend.

Afterwards, Wenger paid glowing tribute to the man whose record of honours "reads like a phone book". "All Europe thought Overmars was dead because of his damaged knee," Wenger said, "but in every important game we have had this season, he has scored. He is a world-class player."



Overmars sets Arsenal on the road to victory by firing home their first goal. His exceptional pace was a constant threat to Newcastle. Photograph: Alastair Grant

newly crowned Footballer of the Year, who was forced to sit out the game with a hamstring injury. It all emphasised that their team is a many splendoured thing, deserving of the hegemony it is establishing. As they paraded the FA Cup around Wembley and supporters of both teams cheered them to the echo, the occasion seemed like a glorious harbinger of the summer of football that awaits us: players playing with verve, skill and assurance, fans applauding their teams and each other. It was like a glimpse of Arcadia.

Against it, how woefully negative and impoverished Newcastle United appeared. It has been disheartening to all who instinctively admired the cavalier spirit of the Keegan years, to see Kenny Dalglish overcompensating for a perceived lack of defensive nous. How can it be right to isolate the England centre forward, Shearer, without a playing partner within 30 yards of him? What sense did it make to switch Pistone from left to right where, inevitably, Overmars astutely emphasised that Pistone has no confidence in his right foot?

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AT THE DOUBLE

Arsenal first won the Double in 1971 and have now emulated Manchester United in winning it twice. The other four clubs to have achieved the Double are Preston North End, Aston Villa, Tottenham Hotspur and Liverpool. The full chronological list is as follows:

- 1888: Preston
- 1897: Aston Villa
- 1961: Tottenham
- 1971: Arsenal
- 1988: Liverpool
- 1994: Manchester United
- 1996: Manchester United
- 1998: Arsenal

advancing Given as he rushed out to meet him. Anelka had already missed a glorious headed chance that had been fashioned by Parlour, and it seemed that there could be no way back for Newcastle. Shearer became so frustrated with his total lack of service that he was booked on the stroke of half-time for a crude, late challenge on Adams.

He was gifted his only chance of the match in the 64th minute when Keown slipped on the ball, but his left-foot shot rebounded off the inside of a post with Seaman beaten. Five minutes later Anelka finally sprung the Newcastle offside trap, running on to a lofted pass from Parlour and driving his shot low past the outstretched hand of Given.

Now, the European Cup Champions' League and a new level of tests await this Arsenal side, ready to push them to greater heights. Overmars has won the European Cup before, with Ajax, but he would not speculate on how Arsenal might fare. Bergkamp, the reluctant spectator, thought that they might perform better than Manchester United because of the prevalence of players in their side who have had European experience.

Wenger, though, chose to finish the afternoon on a grim note for the rest of the Premiership. Arsenal, he said, would not follow the example set by United this season and subjugate all else to the pursuit of the trophy that has become their Holy Grail. "The first priority is to build a side of enough quality to win the championship again," he said.

The rest beware. ARSENAL (4-4-2): D. Seaman — I. Dixon, M. Keown, A. Adams, N. Winterburn — R. Parlor, P. Veira, E. Petit, M. Overmars — C. West (sub: D. Piatek), S. M. Anelka. NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-2): S. Gray — A. Platten, N. Dalglish, S. Howey, S. Forster (sub: A. Anderson, T. W. Barton (sub: S. Watson, 77), R. Lee, D. Hanley, G. Speed (sub: T. Kelsbain (sub: J. Barnes, 69), A. Shearer. Referee: P. Durkin.

Wenger leading English game towards exit from insularity

Arsene Wenger may have dressed like an undertaker for Wembley, but he is a Prince of Light for the English game. The FA Cup Final was affirmation of this Frenchman's ability to hold on to English passion and spirit, and to lace it with fine French technique and Dutch perception.

Afterwards, quietly in the West End hotel where Arsenal celebrated, he sat at the bar, a French wine to hand, continuing to console and to thank Dennis Bergkamp, the Dutchman who was unable to play, for agreeing to enhance the team spirit of the day by swallowing his own disappointment and being part of the group rather than going home to Holland for treatment.

Typical Wenger. He has rehabilitated Arsenal, not merely Tony Adams, and has shown the club, and indeed English football, what there is to learn from overseas.

Coincidentally in the House of Commons after the match on Saturday, the Football Association and the Government were demonstrating that they too are coming out of isolation... that in order to win friends and influence people in support for their bid for the 2006 World Cup, it is high time that England talked a more worldly game.

How refreshing. The years of bombast are a bad memory. The closed shutters are opening and it is no accident that in 1998 — exactly as in 1971 —

ROB HUGHES



At Wembley

Arsenal have won the Double and Chelsea, also cosmopolitan, are the holders of the Cup Winners' Cup. Arsenal surprised many this season by maintaining the ageing back five. They did it by persuading a couple of Frenchmen, Vieira and Petit, to be the workhorses, the shields and protectors in front of them. That is blending.

And Wenger then realised that he needed players in vital midfield and forward positions to transform Arsenal's sterility into something more enterprising, he first identified the positions he needed to fill, then looked for the best players technically that he could find and afford to do the job. Enter Bergkamp, enter Overmars, and, for the future, Anelka. The last two are men who

can sprint 100 metres close to even time, Bergkamp, though missing the finale, is the most subtle player now in the English game.

Against it, how woefully negative and impoverished Newcastle United appeared. It has been disheartening to all who instinctively admired the cavalier spirit of the Keegan years, to see Kenny Dalglish overcompensating for a perceived lack of defensive nous.

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Intriguingly, as part of the campaign to persuade influential foreign journalists that England has the pageantry, the stadiums and the desire to stage the World Cup, Alex Ferguson was the guest speaker at another dinner, on the eve of the final, at Lancaster House.

There, in the gilded finery, Ferguson was dignity personified. "We are examining now why Arsenal have done it, and Chelsea too," he said. "We hold up our hands and say to Arsene Wenger, you deserve it and it's fantastic."

"I think it's good for my young players to lose on this occasion. I wholeheartedly acknowledge what Arsenal achieved between Christmas

and the end of the season. I also admired Zola's goal in Stockholm. It excited me, brought me to my feet."

Ferguson emphasised that the increased buying power of English clubs is an enormous stride in improving the standards and tactical awareness here. As a Scotsman pitching for England's World Cup, he laments the lack of foresight, the lack of a personality with influence inside Uefa or Fifa, the European and world governing bodies.

Specifically, he finds it hard to believe that it took England so long to appreciate that Sir Bobby Charlton, of course a director at Manchester United, could open so many doors abroad, simply by the esteem in which he is held.

Charlton is attempting now to help England to catch up. But because Ferguson, to my mind, still possesses the most complete blend of youth and increasing foreign experience, his view on the eve of the Cup Final is vitally important.

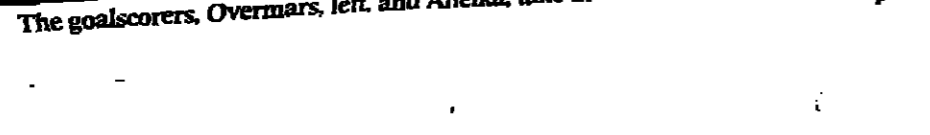
"Wenger has lived for the moment. He has done a brilliant job and blend is the secret. People talk about the financial muscle of Manchester United, but we don't use it. There are two ways to bring success, you can go out and buy proven players — the best, like Ronaldo, Batistuta and Maldini — but I am saying to our scouts that we still want to bring in kids who we can really make to feel loyalty for the club and their own future," Ferguson added.

Ferguson had no doubt that Arsenal would complete the Double. Peter Hill-Wood, the chairman of Arsenal, whose deputy, David Dein, secured Wenger, spoke afterwards with genuine humility. "He," the Arsenal chairman said of Wenger, "is just more intelligent than the rest of us. At least we have the sense to leave him to get on with the job and it would be fun to win the European Champions' League. We will make sure that Mr Wenger has the means to improve the team."

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THOSE WITH DOUBLE VISION LAST SATURDAY.

Our congratulations to Arsenal, Tottenham and Manchester United for their double vision last Saturday. We'll make sure you see double on your JVC glasses. JVC is the only brand that can give you double vision on your glasses. JVC is the only brand that can give you double vision on your glasses.

The goalscorers, Overmars, left, and Anelka, take their turn to show off the Cup



Two newcomers and two recent absentees named in squad for one-day series against South Africa

England bank on Lewis's limited appeal

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

IN THE West Indies a few short weeks ago, England's one-day batting seemed forever to be either in freefall or utterly becalmed. There was no momentum and no solidity, and some of those responsible have now paid the penalty with exclusion from a 14-man party for the three Texaco Trophy internationals against South Africa this week.

Graeme Hick, Mark Ramprakash and, regrettably, Ben Hollis were all omitted when the selectors met on Saturday evening. Their places go to Alistair Brown, who is recalled, and to two newcomers to the national team. Chris Adams and Darren Maddy, both of whom are expected to play when the series starts at the Oval on Thursday.

Maddy, who will be 24 on Saturday, was told of his selection yesterday when David Graveney, the chairman of selectors, visited the Bristol hotel where Leicestershire were based. "Momsents like that are one of the pleasures of the job," Graveney said. "He was quite emotional."

Two seam bowlers who disappointed in the Caribbean, Dean Headley and Dougie Brown, are also replaced, in their cases by familiar faces returning. Darren Gough's inclusion was automatic once his recovery from injury was complete and the selectors have risked one more spin of the wheel on the enigmatic Chris Lewis.

It was August 1996 when Lewis last played for England, when the reaction to his late arrival during a Test match at the Oval indicated that official patience with him was spent and that he would not play again. A new captain and different selectors have allowed one more reprieve, though when Graveney called on him yesterday he is likely to have spent out some strict expectations.

Lewis and Gough are a high-risk pairing, both natural wicket-takers prone to occasional heavy cost, and England might be grateful for the dependability of Angus Fraser before the series is through.

There are two spin bowlers in the squad, Ashley Giles joining Robert Croft, but the core of versatility on which England based their autumn success in Sharjah is maintained by three all-rounders in Mark Ealham, Matthew Fleming and the captain, Adam Hoolioake.

SQUAD

Name	Age	Cape
N V Knight (Warwick)	21	21
A D Brown (Surrey)	26	99
C J Adams (Sussex)	28	9
G P Thorpe (Surrey)	28	44
G L Maddy (Leics)	23	0
A J Hoggan (Surrey, capt)	26	14
M A Ealham (Kent)	28	14
M V Fleming (Kent)	30	9
C G Lewis (Leics)	30	51
R D B Croft (Gloucestershire)	27	23
A F Giles (Warwickshire)	29	1
D Gough (Yorkshire)	27	38
Arc Fraser (Middlesex)	32	36

far as the Test series is concerned.

Maddy cannot yet be inked in as Michael Atherton's opening partner for the more serious business of the summer, as Mark Butcher is in good enough form to merit proper consideration. Maddy is, though, a clear favourite, not least because he made such a profound impression on two of the selectors, Graham Gooch and Mike Gatting, when they managed the England A tour last winter.

Gooch, when playing, set his standards higher than any cricketer I have known, so when he described Maddy's attitude as "the best I have ever seen", it is worth taking notice. There was a point, in Sri Lanka, when Gooch felt that he had to stop Maddy from practising and tell him to rest, which is not a common occurrence on England tours.

The progress of Maddy is another recommendation for the A team, but there is no such continuity in the story of Adams, whose only previous appearance for his country was as substitute fielder in the Old Trafford Test of 1990, when he took two catches.

Adams was 20 then, already a thriving stroke-maker for Derbyshire, and he has been spoken of as an England contender virtually ever since. His long wait for honours can be attributed both to his inconsistency and to his protracted and very public attempts to leave Derbyshire. It is certainly no coincidence that he has finally been picked barely a month after relaunching his career with Sussex.

Adams and Maddy were preferred to Graeme Hick and Nasser Hussain, both of whom were discussed at some length. "Everyone is aware of Hick's potential," Graveney said, "but he had played nine consecutive one-day internationals without a fifty.

"Hussain may feel he has had a pretty tough few weeks at the hands of our decisions, but he was very close to inclusion. We have a lot of one-day cricket before the World Cup and nobody has been ruled out."

More than anyone, this applies to the younger Hoolioake, who has had a difficult start to the season. Graveney expressed "reservations about him being selected and not playing" which are perfectly sound. He needs cricket. The call will come before summer is out.



Maddy, a success on the England A tour last winter, has worked hard to strengthen his defence. Photograph: Graham Chadwick/Allsport

Maddy's devotion to duty rewarded

Simon Wilde on the batsman whose professionalism has been an important factor in his national call-up

It is hard to imagine two more different characters than Leicestershire's last England batsman and the man who appears certain to be their next. David Gower loved Bollinger, japes in vintage aeroplanes and played as though he had not given the matter a thought; Darren Maddy's totems are benchmarks, not practice and single-minded devotion more reminiscent of Gower's antithesis, Graham Gooch.

Maddy's ultra-professionalism appeals to the England selectors, one of whom happens to be Gooch, who encountered it at first hand as manager of the winter A tour of Kenya and Sri Lanka, on which Maddy was such a success. Gooch said he has never been so impressed by a young player.

Gooch's admiration is shared by Gatting, the A-team coach and another selector, confirming that there has never been a better time for an English cricketer to be a zealot. There will be as few stray coupons on Maddy's blazer as there are on that of England's new Test captain. With Maddy, who abandoned A levels to sign for his native county on his 17th birthday, the eagerness is not a convenient add-on. Cricket is a desperately serious matter. He is so painfully anxious to succeed that the notion of him failing hardly bears thinking about. His enthusiasm manifests itself in his incessant chatter

— he machine-guns batting partners and interviewers alike with his thoughts — and his impatience to get to the crease, which promises to make him the most hyperactive England player since Derek Randall. "I want to get stuck in," he said, "I want to be out there facing every ball and if I am not opening I can't sit still. I pace up and down dressing-rooms — stretching, picking up bats, playing imaginary shots. When I first played for Leicestershire I was so intense I tired myself out."

Maddy, 23, claims to have learnt to switch off now but this should be taken with a pinch of salt. After the A tour, on which he was the leading run-scorer, he took a holiday to the Dominican Republic but found the tempo slow. His remedy was to put himself through a long run and several hundred press-ups. Hard work, rather than flair, has got Maddy where he is. He did not play his first organised game until he was 11 and overcame setbacks in the early days of his county career. He sported a single-figure average in 1995. But he has learnt quickly. In a handful of English summers and South African win-

ners, when he played for a Johannesburg club, he strengthened his defence and welded new strokes on to a repertoire consisting chiefly of cuts and pulls. Originally making a name for himself as a fine player of the new ball, he came to terms with spin in Sri Lanka. "I'd had a bit of trouble with spinners," he said, "I used to lunge at the ball and get caught close to the wicket. Now I'm playing with softer hands and more with bat than pad. Graham and Mike have been a great help."

Among Maddy's greatest assets are his strength and courage. "If you ask me what makes him special," Jack Birkenhead, the Leicestershire coach, said, "I'd have to say that it is his bravery. Although he's short, he's powerful and utterly without fear against fast bowling." It is appropriate that Maddy starts his England career against South Africa because it was against their last touring team, four years ago, that he made his Leicestershire debut and gave a glimpse of a rare talent. Facing Allan Donald on a lively Grace Road pitch, he coped exceptionally well. Maddy has not had the opportunity to test himself against South Africa's most menacing bowler since, but he will certainly not be fazed when they renew their acquaintance.

'Selectors have risked one more spin of the wheel on an enigma'



appear to be, for South Africa's habit in one-day cricket is to introduce Allan Donald to their attack in the middle of the innings, at which point the technique and temperament of an opener can only be a bonus. "The way they deploy their attack means that it is a good place for Maddy to bat," Graveney said. "I have no worries about him. He can play in both modes, the orthodox or the unconventional, and if he faces Donald in these games there are spin-offs so



Adams: beneficial move

Freudian slips get new meaning with mind games catching on

Despite plenty of evidence to suggest that it would be an unwelcome business, there is a fashionable trade in the operation of the minds of sportsmen and women.

In the endless quest for enhanced performance, the England cricket team employs a psychologist. Uri Geller reads the thoughts of Formula One drivers and Glenn Hoddle tries to coax his players to assemble mental oneness with a faith healer.

The mind game has now extended to uncharted cerebral territory of county cricketers, many of whom until lately would not have gone within arm's length of anyone trying to discover fear of being their ears for a coach and discuss their childhoods. Senior players may remember Geoffrey Boycott's all-too-revealing performance on *In the Psychiatrist's Chair*.

Hard-bitten professionals and greenhorns are being asked to consider whether it would benefit them to enter mental gymnasiums and the range of analysts is so diverse that, unwittingly, cricket may have finally hit on a way of making itself interesting to Americans.

The Kent players have at their disposal Peter Cohen, a psychologist whose appointment has caused knowing smiles among those who think Kent in need of therapy after finishing runners-up in three competitions last year. John

SIMON WILDE



Cricket Commentary

Wright, the club coach, said that the events are unrelated and that by working on the mental side of the game during his days as a New Zealand batsman he almost doubled his Test average. Among those who have gone to Cohen is Martin McCague, Kent's best bowler but little seen since he was ordered out of the attack at Taunton nine months ago for delivering a string of bouncers. McCague — who has reason to be mixed up, having been born in Northern Ireland, raised in Australia and opted play for England — sought help after a distressing winter in which he lost weight and bowling rhythm. It is rumoured that McCague might have played against Lancashire last week

had he not discovered that Alan Whitehead, the umpire he crossed at Taunton, was officiating. He opted instead to play for Ashford in the Kent League on Saturday and insisted he was confident of rediscovering the form that made him one of the best new-ball bowlers in England.

When the obviously talented come off the rails, psychological assistance ought to be a natural option. André van Troost, the Dutch-born fast bowler in his eighth season with Somerset, has excited rare notices from respected critics with his rare speed. However, so often has he horrendously failed to live up to expectations that the fact he qualified for England this year has aroused no interest in a nation short of fast bowlers.

Dermot Reeve, who joined Somerset as coach last year and might describe himself as a self-made guru, controversially awarded Van Troost his cap within weeks of his arrival in an effort to boost the bowler's confidence. The move failed when Van Troost bowled 9.2 overs for 69 runs before pulling up lame.

During the winter, Reeve arranged for Van Troost to spend four months in Australia with Peter Wishart, a physical and mental coach whose programme included visualisation and meditation. Van Troost took wickets for Somerset's second XI last week and is close to promotion. As with other aspects of the

game, mental profiling is an area in which England is borrowing from modern advances made in Australia, where only a generation ago the stereotypical male sportsman might have mistaken a Freudian slip for a fielding position. His successor knows better and several county sides are supervised by Australians. David Gilbert, a New South Wales on his second county at Sussex, is convinced that mental study is the way forward, as long as the people helping know about cricket. At his previous county, Surrey, Gilbert had first-hand involvement last year in the case of Alex Tudor, who lost his way after being linked to the England team, which suggests that success can be as damaging as failure.

Tudor's seven wickets and 48 runs at Southampton, where Surrey moved to the top of the Britannic Assurance county championship, appear to indicate that he no longer feels the burden of the premature plaudits but Gilbert stressed that sensitive handling will remain the key to his progress. Many Australian players benefit from consultations with Graham Winter, the Australian Cricket Board's resident psychologist. Among them are Justin Langer, who displayed his powers of concentration by scoring the first double-century of the season to help Middlesex to beat Somerset by 211 runs.

THE TIMES

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Body and Mind keeps you up to date on health issues.

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SATURDAY. ANYTHING BUT A DAY OF REST.

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RUGBY LEAGUE: McRAE'S SIDE ARE FRUSTRATED BY BATTLING HULL

St Helens rally to make late escape from Sharks

St Helens.....28
Hull Sharks.....18

By PETER WILSON

ST HELENS avoided the embarrassment of defeat at the hands of struggling Hull Sharks, but they will have to show a marked improvement if they are to become serious challengers for the JJB Super League title.

Saints, who won the first summer championship two years ago, had to come from behind in the closing 20 minutes and Shaun McRae, their coach, admitted that this was not the sort of performance that would worry the other leading clubs that are hoping to stake a claim for a place in the top-five play-offs at the end of the season.

"Although we won, it was not a match of any quality," McRae said. "If the ball was in play for 20 minutes of the first half, I would be very surprised. I feel as though it was a game that never really happened, even though this was

one of the strongest teams we could field. However, you have to give Hull some credit for their spoiling tactics in defence."

McRae's frustration was understandable and was shared by most of the 7,500-strong crowd. There were far too many stoppages and handling errors by both teams.

Hull, still trying to make an impact in Super League since their promotion, included three former St Helens players in their team and appeared to be heading for a surprise victory until Saints finally found their feet in the last 20 minutes.

A try from David Baldon after just four minutes gave Hull the lead and St Helens had to rely on the trusty boot of Bobbie Goulding, their scrum half, to keep them in touch. He kicked five first-half goals and those ten points, together with a solitary try from Karlie Hammond, the hooker, enabled St Helens to go in at the interval with a 14-8 lead.

Early in the second half, though, one of the St Helens old boys, Steve Prescott, the full back, struck with the try that brought Hull right back into the picture. He chased a kick from David Stephenson and was first to the touchdown. Graeme Hallas converted the try to level the scores.

Within two minutes, Hull were in front. Goulding fumbled the ball over his own line and, in the same attack, Logan

Campbell, the loose forward, crossed the line to score Hull's third try.

With an hour gone, St Helens were on tricky ground until Paul Acheson, their full back, scored his first try for the club since his move from Oldham to bring the scores level again.

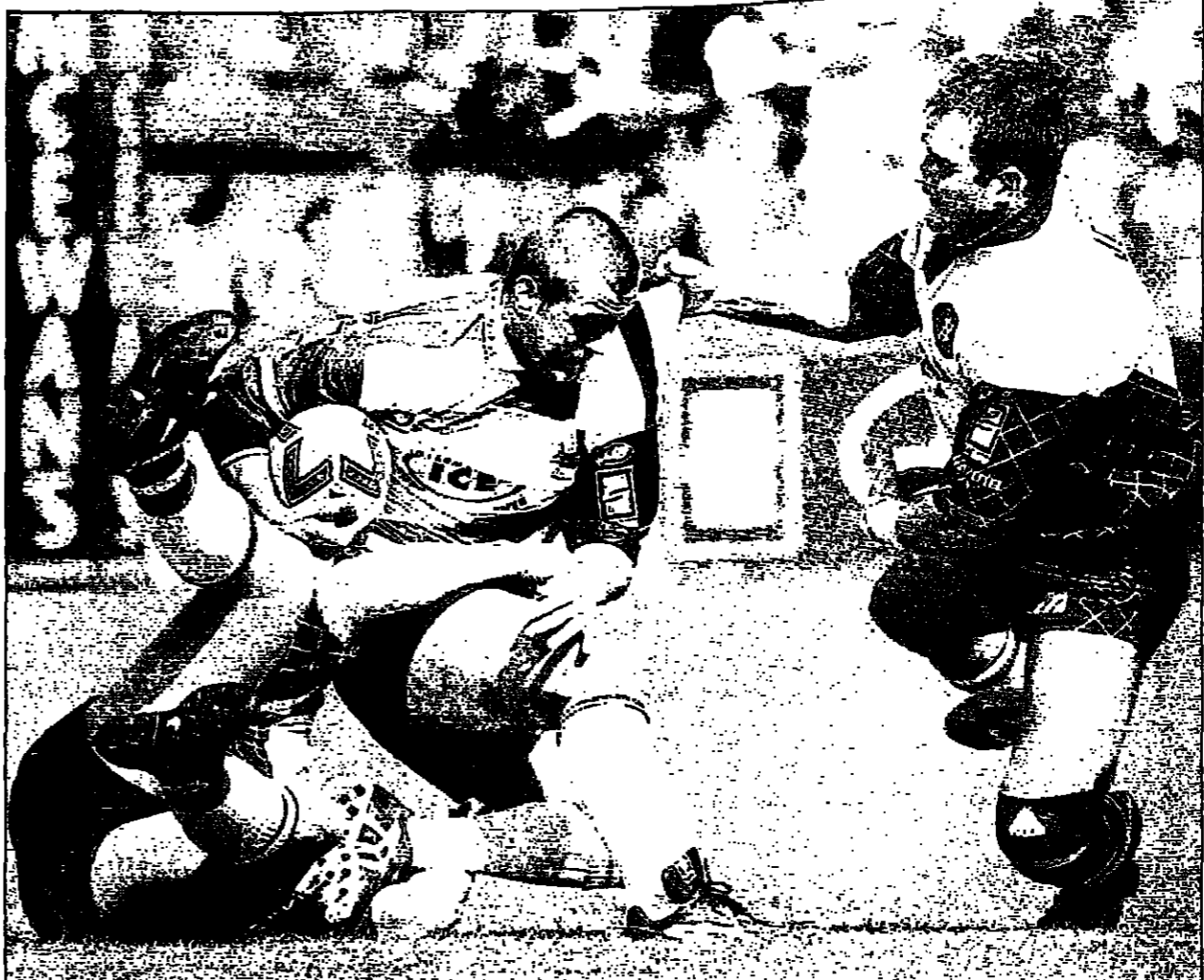
When Goulding kicked his sixth goal to convert the try, Saints led 20-18. Hull's challenge was beginning to fade and they conceded another try

in the 72nd minute. Damien Smith, the St Helens centre, completing the move.

Then, two minutes from time, Chris Smith, the man of the match, took advantage of some sloppy Hull defending to score the final touchdown and give Saints a victory that rarely looked likely.

One black spot of the afternoon, came when Brett Goldspink claimed that he had been bitten in a tackle. "I don't know who it was," he said. "I was involved in a two-man tackle and was bitten on the leg. Fortunately, the player immediately let go so it could have been a lot worse than it was. I complained to the referee who has put the incident on report so I will leave it to the committee to decide what to do."

ST HELENS: P Acheson, C Smith, D Baldon, S Long, B Goulding, B Goldspink, K Hammond, J O'Neill, C Jone, P Davidson, P Cuthbert. SUBSTITUTES: A Fretti, K Cunningham, A High, T Mason. HULL SHARKS: S Prescott, D Baldon, A Hurst, G Hallas, F Senz, G Lester, G Tomlinson, A Inman, D Stephenson, H Cleaver, S Booth, M Schultze, I Campbell. SUBSTITUTES: L Rafter, R Wilson, J Latham, J Smith. Referee: K Fitzgerald.



Andy Ireland, the Hull forward, feels the full force of the St Helens defence during the Sharks' defeat yesterday

Hapless Giants still depressed

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

Huddersfield Giants remain rooted at the foot of Super League after falling to their sixth defeat in as many matches yesterday. London Broncos beating them 28-20 at the McAlpine Stadium. The hapless Giants struggled for long periods and it was only during a spirited ten-minute spell after the interval that they posed a serious threat.

During that spell Danny Arnold and Dean Hanger both touched down, but overall Garry Schofield's side made far too many handling errors. London got off to a flying start when their centre, Chris Ryan, dived over for a sixth-minute try and Glen Air doubled the advantage inside ten minutes. Both scores were converted by Terry Materson, who pushed London further ahead as he crashed over from close range.

Huddersfield enjoyed their good spell after the break but whenever they seemed to be getting on top, the ball went to ground or to the opposition. Rob Smyth, from Wigan, dived over in the corner for a debut try for London and the game was beyond the Giants

when Ryan scored his second try in the 64th minute after fine work by Martin Offiah. London could have had more tries but Offiah and Ryan were wasteful with the line at their mercy and the game was into stoppage time when Paul Loughlin crossed for Huddersfield.

Warrington Wolves moved nearer to mid-table respectability with their second successive home victory, a 33-18 win over Castleford. Steve McCurrie notched the opening try for Warrington in the 24th minute, when Chris Rudd was in the sin bin. Lee Briers converted, added a dropped goal and then split the Castleford defence with a precision pass to make a try by the Australian centre, Mike Eager.

Briers finished with 17 points, adding four goals in the second half and a fine solo try as Warrington hit back after Castleford had taken a 16-15 lead, thanks to two tries from a Warrington old boy, Mike Ford. Both were converted by a former Widnespool favourite, Francis Maloney, who also added a penalty.

SPEEDWAY

Eastbourne win but Dugard crashes out

By TONY HOARE

MARTIN DUGARD, the Eastbourne No. 1, will be out of action for several weeks after breaking his wrist on Saturday. Dugard, 29, broke two bones in his left wrist riding for Eastbourne against King's Lynn at Arlington. Dugard, an England international, crashed into the safety fence at speed after he and Mark Lemon locked together entering the first turn in the fourth heat.

Dugard also suffered neck injuries and was taken to hospital, but the wrist injury was found to be more serious.

Eastbourne, second in the Elite League, struggled to beat King's Lynn without Dugard but eventually pulled clear in the final heat. Gary Havelock, the Eastbourne captain, said that losing Dugard was a blow.

"It's a big upset for us the way Martin has been going," Havelock said. "He's been holding the team together lately while the rest of us have been struggling a little bit."

It is the third year in a row that Dugard has been injured in the run-in to the British final, but this year he had already withdrawn from the event as a protest against harder compound tyres to be used by all competitors.

King's Lynn will also be without one of their main riders for the next month after a ban that has been imposed on Bohumil Brhel, their Czech reserve. Brhel failed to turn up to King's Lynn's Saddlebow Road stadium for their home meeting with Eastbourne last Wednesday because he was in his home nation preparing for the first round of the world championship grand-prix series.

Brhel, who rode as a wild card in Prague and finished sixteenth, was banned for 28 days by the British Speedway Promoters' Association.

Tony Rickardsson, who rides for Ipswich, became the first Swedish rider to win a grand-prix round when he cruised to victory in Prague. Rickardsson, who was world champion under the old one-day format in 1994, said: "I thought there was a curse on me. I have top scored in GPs and got into loads of A Finals. But I just couldn't win one or make a good start when it really mattered."

He now leads the series from Billy Hamill, who finished second, while Greg Hancock, the world champion, is down in thirteenth place.



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Edward Gorman examines how novices raced to Whitbread glory

Language puts seal on triumph for tactics

JUST as dawn was breaking yesterday at the new fishing port on the edge of La Rochelle, Paul Cayard and the crew of EF Language were finally able to celebrate their victory in the Whitbread Round the World Race.

Their mission on leg eight from Annapolis was either to beat Swedish Match or finish one place behind her to make certain of an overall win regardless of the outcome of the last leg to Southampton, which starts on Friday. In the event, Cayard and his navigator, Mark Rudiger, managed it comfortably, finishing in sixth place for the leg, almost three hours ahead of Gunnar Krantz and the crew of Swedish Match.

Match-racing another boat over 3,000 miles of Atlantic Ocean was not easy, however, and at one point the crew almost persuaded their skipper to forget it and just sail their normal race. "We considered that for about 20 minutes," Rudiger said, "but we reasoned it out and said we had to win the war, not the battle, and to win the war we had to beat Swedish Match or finish just behind them."

Cayard found trying to cover Krantz frustrating. "I've been in few match-races in my time and it's very hard to match-race someone when you don't really know where they are going," he said.

EF Language's win looked on the cards since Sydney, where she took her second stage win in three starts. After her victory in the second Southern Ocean leg from Auckland to São Sebastião, it was just a matter of whether fate would intervene to thwart Cayard's crew.

EF Language's victorious arrival followed an exciting match-race finish between Paul Standbridge's Toshiba and Silk Cut, skippered by Lawrie Smith, on Saturday evening, with Toshiba just holding for victory on the leg by a margin of ten minutes.

Chessie Racing, skippered by John Kostecki, finished third to keep up the pressure on Merit Cup, skippered by Grant Dalton, for third place overall. Dalton was fifth, 45 minutes behind the ecstatic all-women crew on EF Education, who held on for fourth place, easily their best finish of the race.



Toshiba's crew celebrate victory in the penultimate leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race. Photograph: Franck Prevel

Cayard proves classic leader

WHY did EF Language win the Whitbread when so few predicted it? Any campaign in a race of this sort is a combination of multiple factors, so no one element is the key. In the case of EF Language, the team managed to get more things right than any of its rivals.

Mark Chisnell, the leading British racing navigator, who is writing a book on the EF campaign, believes that Paul Cayard and his navigator, Mark Rudiger, struck the right balance between boat-to-boat tactics and long-term weather strategy.

"They always seemed to choose the right moment throughout the whole race to emphasise the right things," he said. "Either taking strategic weather decisions or opting to pull back into the fleet to reduce their exposure—they stand out in the fleet in that respect."

Rudi had the good sense to let him do his thing. Other elements were the quality of the boat itself, which, unlike others in the fleet, was not built at a commercial yard and is almost certainly the strongest, but also the lightest of all the Farr hulls. The EF sail programme was ahead of everyone else's early on and their "upwind spinnaker" turned out to be quicker than its rivals.

Another important factor was the combination of Cayard's intense on-board leadership and the general tight discipline of the EF Language crew, which brought a new level of imaginative thinking to problem-solving.

Magnus Olsson, the on-board team manager of EF Language, said that the inexperience of the crew—which is rising in America's Cups and inshore racing but new to the Whitbread—became one of its strengths. "Those who don't have the experience don't take anything for granted," he said.

Cayard never doubted the ability of his crew to rise above more experienced rivals. "I know enough about sailing to know I am a lucky person to win this race at the first time of trying but, in my heart, I know we had a great crew and boat, even though we are novices at ocean racing," he said.

The Californian skipper, who now goes on to lead the America's Cup challenger campaign in the next America's Cup, pointed two key moments that, he believed, made EF Language a winner. The first was the nature of victory in the first leg back in September, leading the fleet out of the Solent and carrying it through to victory in Cape Town.



Cayard: correct decisions

This followed an unsettled period before the race, a poor Fastnet performance and the resignation of the original navigator, Nick White. "To go on and win that leg solidified us as a team and gave us the confidence—it was much more valuable than the points we earned," Cayard said.

The second moment was the reaction to their poor performance when the Southern Ocean defeated them. "We had the guts to look ourselves in the mirror in Fremantle and say 'why did this thing go sideways on leg two?'" Cayard added. "It would have been one thing just to shrug it off but we had a very hard meeting that morning, which was tough for some of us. Then we won leg five and that was the race secure. After that, it was just diligent, professional homework."

Contribution of Frost makes it St George's day

BY NICK SZCZEPANIK

ONE-DAY cricket, four-day, five-day—but two years? The Lord's Taverners Cricketer Colts' Trophy for schools takes place over two seasons before the final, to be played this year at Trent Bridge on July 10, decides the champions.

"It's the only truly national competition for all schools, state and independent," Sue White, competition organiser of The Cricketer magazine, which runs the second year of the trophy, said. The English Schools Cricket Association (ESCA) takes charge of the first year, when approximately 1,400 schools in England and Wales are whittled down to 49 county winners.

In the second year, these 49 schools are split into four groups—North, Midlands, South East and South West—and the four group winners become the semi-finalists. The age qualifications (under-14 during the first year, under-15 in the second) mean that the teams are able to stay together for the duration. There is an overlap: while the second year of one trophy gets underway, the first year of the next is also beginning.

A competition on such a scale clearly required substantial backing. "Our chairman, Ben Brocklehurst, persuaded the Lord's Taverners to sponsor the whole thing," White said. "They gave money to ESCA to administer the first stage."

The trophy is in its 27th year; one of its main aims nowadays, White said, is "to encourage state schools to play the game. Eight or nine years ago, many school playing-fields were sold off and a number of state schools fell by the wayside from a cricketing point of view." As far as possible, all the competition's matches are played on school grounds.

The confrontation on Friday between the champions of Sussex and Surrey, St George's College, Weybridge, an independent school, and Sackville School, East Grinstead, an 11-18 comprehensive,

was an exception, being staged at East Grinstead Sports Club. "We have tried to form links between club and school, as schools are encouraged to do," Keith Turk, the Sackville head of PE, said. "Most of the side are members of the club and we play all our games here."

Sackville has its own field, but its artificial wicket is sandwiched between heavily-used football and rugby pitches and the club, which also boasts excellent indoor facilities, is an attractive alternative. "We've got a decent ground at our place, but it's fantastic to play here," Richard Ambrose, the St George's PE teacher, said.

"The competition is tough, because the public schools make it tough," Turk said. "The boys don't want anything half-hearted. We're lucky we have two advanced coaches (himself and Alastair Currie)."

The 40-over East group, won by the visiting team in a gripping finish off the last ball of the final over, was finely balanced throughout. Sackville were happy with their score of 191 for seven and they looked likely winners as St George's lagged behind the required run-rate after 30 overs.

The hard work seemed to have been done when a partnership of 81 for the second wicket was broken; however, despite some excellent catches, including the one that claimed the prized wicket of Tim Frost, a Surrey under-15 player, a boundary conceded off the penultimate ball proved costly. It left St George's needing a single run and the last man, Chris Caswell, gave the ball just enough for it to beat a despairing dive at mid-wicket.

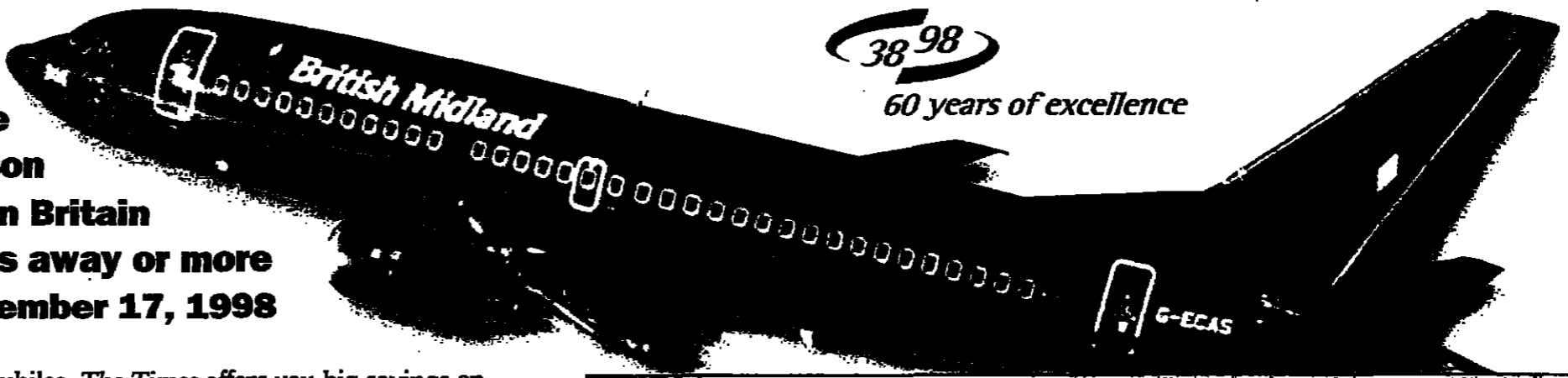
"Out of the fire," Ambrose said. "With eight overs left, I thought we were dead and buried, but the guys did fantastically." If the final is anything like the game on Friday, spectators at Trent Bridge could be in for a treat.

SCORES: Sackville School 191-7 (N Turk 88); St George's College 182-9 (T Frost 65).

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CHANGING TIMES

Jennai Cox on a healthy challenge for female runners of all ages and all levels of fitness

Running for fun with women in mind



All for one and one for all: friends, left to right, Christine Swiers, Anna Walker and Becky Redfean in training for the Flora Women's Challenge on July 26.

While the rest of the country reeled from the news of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, last year, the organisers of the London Marathon were having to put their minds to something else: an all-women's race in the capital. Just as the Princess seemed to touch the lives of people across all racial and social barriers, so the organisers were trying to develop a strategy that would appeal to as diverse a group of women as possible.



Once achieved, in the shape of the Flora Women's Challenge, it seemed only appropriate that the money raised from the event should go towards the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund.

As 1998 had been designated by the International Amateur Athletics Federation as the year of the female runner, the Association of International Marathons decided it would be an appropriate time to try to attract more women to the sport. They gave Alan Storey, general manager of London Marathon Ltd, the task of coming up with a formula that would encourage women of all ages and levels of fitness to start to run. The fact that 85 per cent of those competing in the London Marathon were



In what has been designated the year of the female runner, two members of the Daughters of the Cross in Cheam, left, are as happy to take part in the Women's Challenge run as more experienced entrants



men meant Mr Storey faced a daunting task. He travelled extensively, talking to organisers of women-only events to discover the winning formula. Changing the image of a competitive race, offering tips for training, and suggesting those involved train in groups, seemed to be the main elements that helped to get a run off the ground.

"For all sorts of reasons women generally find it more difficult to train for a race than men," Mr Storey says. "Getting them to train together makes the preparation more of a social occasion and means they are less likely to want to drop out or let down their friends."

The hundreds of women from all over Ireland who travel to the "meet and train" groups arranged by the organisers of the annual Dublin women's mini-marathons say the support, friendship and understanding offered in these sessions provides them with an incentive to turn up.

So, teaming up with Flora and Adidas, *The Times* will, over the next few weeks, provide readers with training



The run could be the trigger for a healthy lifestyle

tips. It is not just the race itself on which the organisers want women to focus their attention, but the whole process of preparing for it — becoming more aware of what they eat, how often they take exercise and how healthy they actually feel. "We hope it will be a trigger for many women to start living a more healthy lifestyle," Mr Storey says.

Studies carried out by the Health Education Authority reveal that women come top when it comes to being overweight and unfit. Starting at school, where the lack of choice in sports seems to encourage many teenage girls to do all they can to avoid their

physical education lessons, this sedentary pattern of living is continued into adulthood. By appealing to all ages the race organisers hope daughters, mothers and even grandmothers will train and run, or walk, the three miles together.

Anna Walker, a Sky Sports presenter, has persuaded two of her best friends to run the race with her. Both hate running, but were won round by the short distance. One of them, Christine Swiers, has decided that if she can finish in under 30 minutes, all her sponsors can fork out double the money. "Three miles is an achievable goal," Ms Walker says. "But you can take hours

to finish if you want to. Everyone sets their own objective. It is not a competition. Women tend not to set time aside for themselves to exercise and use that as an excuse for being unfit," Ms Walker says.

"It is as if we were biologically made to take care of other people. I believe this race can show women that anyone can build fitness into their everyday life."

Not just fitness either. According to Steven Seaton, editor of *Runner's World* magazine, running is increasingly recognised as one of the most efficient ways of controlling your waistline.

"Running has transformed itself since the mid-Eighties from a macho sport to one that anyone can do and most of the newcomers are women," he says. "Marathons are generally not very popular but shorter distances are."

Being able to run almost anywhere at any time, at little cost, with a partner or alone, are all factors that work in its favour, he adds. "To more and more women running is becoming a viable exercise option." For the 10,000 who are expected to head for Hyde Park for the Flora Women's Challenge on July 26, it obviously is.

ENTRY FORM FOR THE FLORA WOMEN'S CHALLENGE SUNDAY 26 JULY 1998

Please complete (in capitals) and send to the address below

For office use only: Ref no: _____ Race no: _____

Surname _____ First name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Date of birth _____

Home telephone number _____

Work telephone number _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please send your entry form together with £10 entry fee to: Flora Women's Challenge, PO Box 1998, London SE1 8ZW. Please make cheques payable to The London Marathon Ltd.

The Flora Women's Challenge is organised and operated by The London Marathon Ltd. By signing this form I declare that I will abide by the rules of the event and that I shall be at the date of the event fit and that the details given in the form are correct in all particulars. I accept that to the extent permitted by law, the organisers and sponsors shall have no liability to me for injury, loss or damage, nor any consequential loss or damage suffered by me at or by reason of the event.



And baby comes too

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Themistocles Papadopoulos, the favourite opponent of Victor Mollo's immortal Hideous Hog, was reputed to be the only man capable of false-carding with a singleton. Alas for a number of declarers in the Cap Gemini tournament, there were several opponents who seemed equally capable of the feat.

Dealer East North-South Game IMPs

▲ AK54
♦ Q876
♥ QJ2
♣ 102

▲ QJ93
♦ 1432
♥ 102
♣ 955

▲ 8762
♦ 974
♥ AJ873

▲ 10
♦ AK105
♥ AK855
♣ KQ4

Contract: Six Hearts by South. Lead: six of clubs

The majority of declarers reached Six Hearts, receiving a club lead and continuation. As you can see, the slam would have been laid down if trumps had split; but when declarer laid down the ace of trumps the nine appeared.

Now the question is whether that card is a singleton or a devious false-card from J 9 x x, trying to persuade declarer to misguess in the trump suit. It is an awkward decision, and in fact only two out of seven declarers were prepared to pay off to this apparent "brilliance". The successful declarers led out the king of hearts, and as a result negotiated the 4-1 trump split and picked up a handsome swing for their side. The other five declarers misguessed by leading a trump to the queen, and went down.

I discussed this situation in the Weekend column a few months ago. In good company, when the suit is 4-1, after declarer lays down

the ace of hearts the nine will appear from East (i) when East has the singleton nine and (ii) when East has J 9 x x and West one of the three small singletons. As (ii) is three times as likely as (i), playing low to the queen on the second round is best.

But notice that declarer should cross to dummy with a spade at trick three, and lead a heart up to the ace. Now when the nine of hearts appears it is more likely to be a singleton. Apart from anything else, the deceptive play would not be a success if West had the bare ten of hearts — a certain trump trick would have disappeared. If that happened, it might have drawn the famous Hideous Hog remark: "Maybe if you didn't try to be so clever, you wouldn't end up looking so stupid."

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

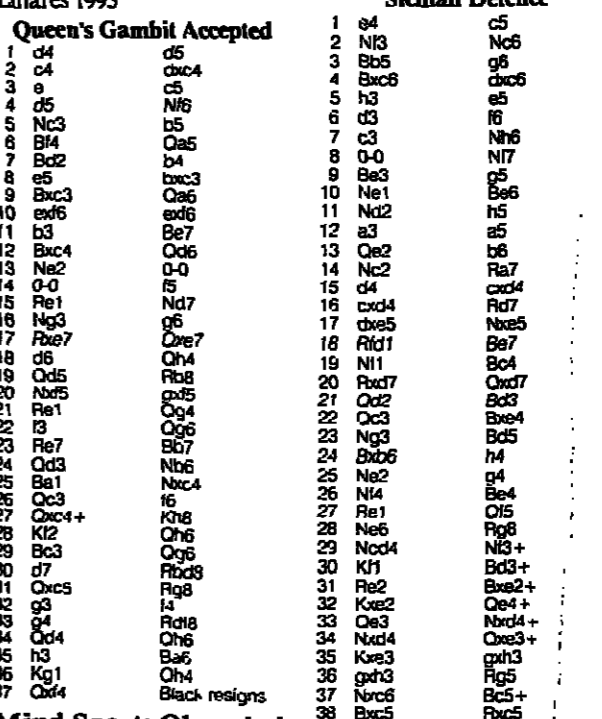
KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Shirov v Kramnik

Although Alexei Shirov has a volatile style and Vladimir Kramnik will appear to be the more reliable of the two players, Shirov, in fact, leads by six wins to four in their overall career. Today I continue with two more of their previous encounters in the run-up to their qualifying match, which starts later this month.

White: Alexei Shirov
Black: Vladimir Kramnik
Linares 1993



Mind Sports Olympiad

The second Mind Sports Olympiad, which includes chess, bridge, crosswords and IQ, will take place at the Royal Festival Hall from August 24-30.

□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ORREFORS
a. A machine gun
b. Glass
c. The Swedish Air Force

RIGAUDON
a. A French dance
b. A verse metre
c. A pack donkey

OORIAL
a. A New Zealand tree
b. A sheep
c. Patterned satin

SAMAN
a. A witch doctor
b. A yearling salmon
c. A sacred text

Answers on page 47

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Bhend — Rolli, Baden, 1996. Although White has had to move his king, his lead in development and the awkward position of the black king and queen are more relevant. How did White continue?

Solution on page 47

مركزنا من الأصل

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NFL EUROPE: Barcelona Dragons 31... Miami Dolphins 21...

ATHLETICS

BRITISH LEAGUE: First division 100m: 1... 100m hurdles: 1... 200m hurdles: 1...

FOR THE RECORD

CC (Chalfont, Bucks) 25 masts 1, S... (Hendon) 24.16, 2 M Hamilton (North Down)

CYCLING

TOUR OF ASTURIAS: Fourth stage... (157km) 1, S Barco (Esp) 4hr 38m 22s

AUSTRALIAN RULES

AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE: Essendon 121... (115) 10 Sydney 121 (102) 20

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Final... (Los Angeles Lakers 77 Utah leads best-of-seven series 1-0)

BOXING

BETHNAL GREEN: York held British light-welterweight championship: J Rowland

OTHER SPORT

WINDSOR: Royal Horse Show: The... (Hendon) 24.16, 2 M Hamilton (North Down)

CRICKET

TEXACO TROPHY: Second one-day international: Od Trafford (England) v South Africa

RUGBY UNION

WELSH LEAGUE: Premier division... (Cardiff) 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

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WINDSOR: Royal Horse Show: The... (Hendon) 24.16, 2 M Hamilton (North Down)

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JUDO

Bryant's win puts world in her grasp

By JOHN GOODBODY

FEW heavyweights in the world seem capable of defeating Karina Bryant...

Her victory was the outstanding performance of the championships...

In the final, against Raquel Barrientos, who was second in the world championships last October...

Both fighters had similar scores on their knockdowns...

The Briton will now spend three weeks training in Japan preparing for the world junior championships...

Debbie Allan, the lightweight, one of Bryant's training partners...

Georgina Singleton was thrown cleanly with a counter-technique in the featherweight final...

Diamond Cliff takes grand prix in dramatic jump-off

Whitaker's sense of timing lifts the spoils

By JENNY MACARTHUR

JOHN WHITAKER brought the sun-drenched Royal Windsor Horse Show to a rousing conclusion...

Victory came after a tense 11-horse jump-off in the Castle Arena...

Results 39

Whitaker was invited to take over the ride on Diamond Cliff last November...

Earlier, Georgina Frith, of Great Britain, the European driving champion...

In the final phase of the event yesterday, the cones, Frith, a pharmacist from Dorchester...

that the eight-year-old is one of the best young horses in the sport...

Nick Skelton, the winner of four classes at the show, was out of luck yesterday...

Geoff Billington and Virtual Village Its Otto, the winners last year...

Georgina Frith, of Great Britain, the European driving champion...

In the final phase of the event yesterday, the cones, Frith, a pharmacist from Dorchester...



Geoff Luckett and Nancy on their way to victory in the Traxdata Speed Stakes

marathon phase on Saturday when Jester, a pony she had acquired for her team...

moment." Frith, 26, said. Her two grooms, Sarah Coombe and Andrew Simmons...

The Duke of Edinburgh, who had been lying second after the dressage with the Queen's team...

YESTERDAY'S RACING RESULTS

Kempton Park
Going: good to firm
2.05 (5) 1. Dark Albatross (P) Edley, 4-1...

SATURDAY'S DETAILS

Newbury
Going: good to firm
1.30 (9) 1. Hard Lines (L) Dutton, 6-11...

Advertisement for 'THE TIMES' featuring a large portrait of a man's face and the text 'EVERY WEEKDAY, THE BIG PICTURE.' and 'CHANGING TIMES'.

Advertisement for 'WIN A VIP TRIP TO THE WORLD CUP '98 FINAL' with details on how to win tickets to Italy v Cameroon or any Serie A game.

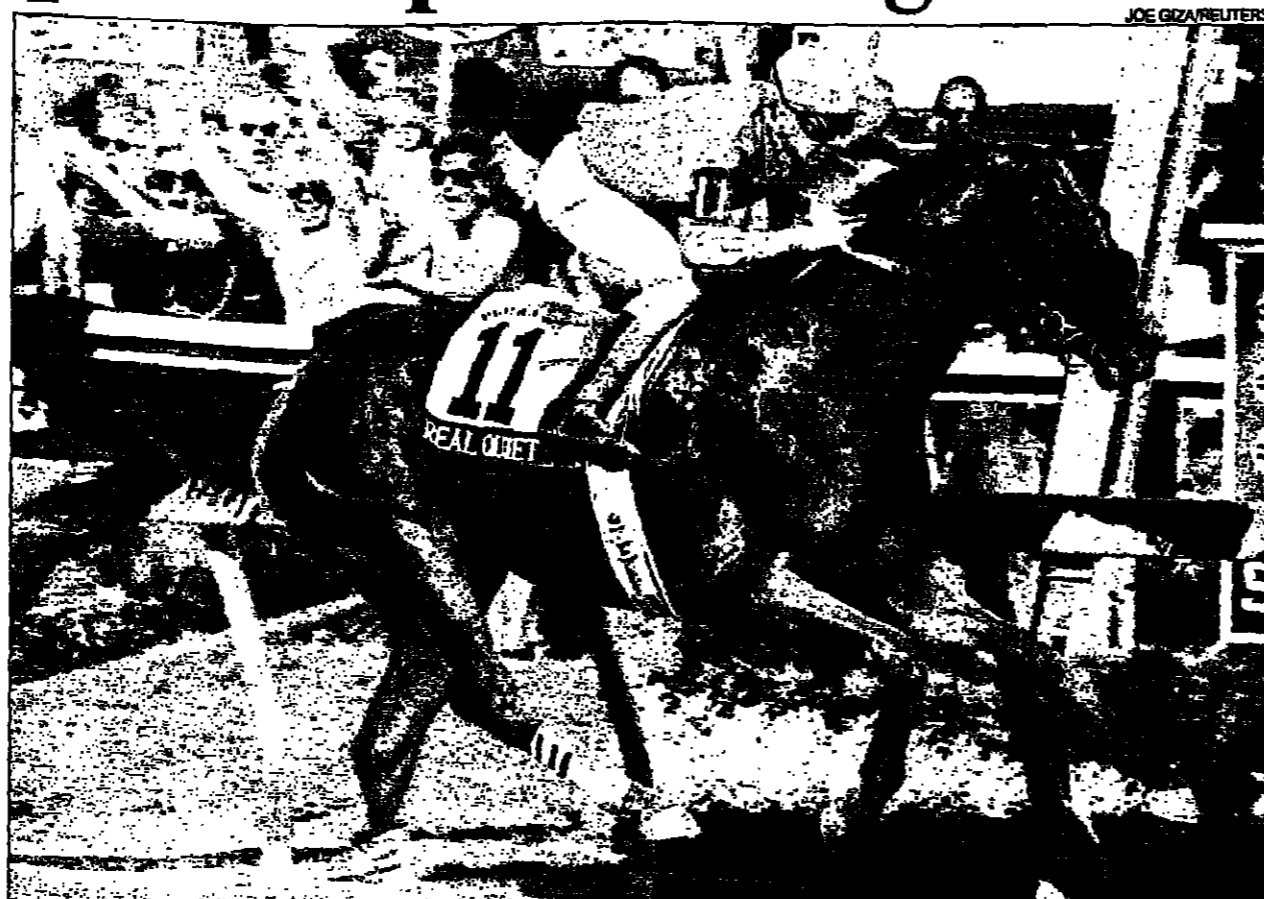
Large vertical advertisement for 'Godolphin' featuring a horse and rider, with text 'BATH' and 'GUIDE TO OUR RACES'.

RACING: EPSOM CLASSIC PLACES CONFIRMED FOR BAHR AND CITY HONOURS

Godolphin hopes stand ground

By CHRIS McGRATH

IT WAS a spectacle that augured bleakly for rivals of Godolphin. Cape Cross, repeatedly finding extra in the Juddmonte Locking Stakes at Newbury on Saturday...



Real Quiet crosses the line 2 1/2 lengths ahead of Victory Gallop to land the Preakness Stakes at Pimlico race-course in Baltimore on Saturday.

RICHARD EVANS Nap: Longwick Lad (5.00 Bath) Longwick Lad, a course and distance winner...

feeling yet doubtless become wearily familiar to English barmen this summer - relieved to see off an over from Allan Donald, they will look up to find Shaun Pollock pacing out his run.

Godolphin's very existence reflects the shrinking horizons of international racing. Yet Simon Crisford, its racing manager, yesterday ruled out any suggestion that this apparent embarrassment of riches for Epsom would prompt a late diversion to Chantilly.

Even if Cape Verdi were to tackle the colts at Epsom, however, City Honours would remain among them. Like-wise, if she is kept for the Oaks, Bahr will not be switched to the Prix de Diane Hennes.

"I think it is set in stone that Bahr and City Honours will both run at Epsom," Crisford said. "We were very pleased with City Honours and, having left a bit to work on, expect him to come on for the run."

Godolphin horses that only reached Newmarket a week ago. It also included Swain, who proved a revelation of similarly heroic proportions in the Dubai World Cup.

On his way back to Ascot, he will be allowed to continue his hidden dimensions of brilliance in either the Prince of Wales Stakes at Royal Ascot or the Coral-Eclipse Stakes at Sandown.

itself the most exacting of standards - and largely contrived to sustain them.

For above all, the result demonstrated that beating Godolphin's big guns is sometimes only half the battle.

Whether Cape Verdi contests the Vodafone Derby or Oaks, the 1,000 Guineas winner is likely to be sent off favourite.

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.30 VANBOROUGH LAD. Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.00 SUCCESS AND GLORY (nap). 4.00 Linc Tern.

Table with 4 columns: Race number, Name, Odds, and Rating.

3.00 NORTON & BROOKSBAK NOVICE STAKES

- 301 (1) 1 DEEP DIVE (5) (P) ... T ... 97
302 (2) 14 FAHRIF 251 (P) ... R ... 80
303 (3) 101 SCREE SNAWES (5) ... S ... 100

1997. 10 CORRESPONDENCE RACE. FAVOR disappointed at Sandown but has the makings of a decent three-year-old.

3.30 TOTE FILLES HANDICAP (SHOWCASE RACE)

- 401 (1) 1223-03 SHALATENO (7) (F) ... T ... 88
402 (2) 1000-03 HULLY 270 (F) ... R ... 87
403 (3) 1223-03 CHEEKY TO CHEEK ... J ... 86

SHALATENO showed she was coming to hand with an encouraging Windsor effort.

4.00 TROWBRIDGE NOVICE STAKES

- 501 (2) 31 CONSULTANT (5) (D) ... W ... 79
502 (3) 100-00 BEAU VERTICE (2) (F) ... S ... 82
503 (4) 100-00 CLAM NET (2) (F) ... C ... 81

Consistent local Lady Carteron set to suffer at Wolverhampton (5), Amber Red set to suffer at Sandown (5).

4.30 NATIONAL RIDING WEEK LIMITED STAKES

- 601 (1) 100-00 BEAU VERTICE (2) (F) ... S ... 82
602 (2) 100-00 CLAM NET (2) (F) ... C ... 81
603 (3) 100-00 BEAU VERTICE (2) (F) ... S ... 82

At large 31st of 20 to Desert Beauty in handicap at Newmarket (5), Beau Vertice (2) at Sandown (5).

5.00 CHEDDAR HANDICAP

- 1 (2) 281-00 ARABIQUE (10) (F) ... J ... 78
1 (3) 1000-00 HARRY PRINCE (5) (F) ... A ... 78
1 (4) 1000-00 LONCHERIE (10) (F) ... S ... 78

Longwick Lad, 2 1/2 lengths ahead of Victory Gallop, to land the Preakness Stakes at Pimlico race-course in Baltimore on Saturday.

FORM FOCUS

Longwick Lad 2 1/2 lengths ahead of Victory Gallop to land the Preakness Stakes at Pimlico race-course in Baltimore on Saturday.

FLAT LEADERS

Longwick Lad, a course and distance winner, is preferred to Daintily.

TRAINERS

Table with 3 columns: Trainer Name, Wins, and Percentage.

JOCKEYS

Table with 3 columns: Jockey Name, Wins, and Percentage.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

Table with 3 columns: Trainer Name, Wins, and Percentage.

Blackford bows out with local winner

POINT-TO-POINT BY CARL EVANS

LINDA BLACKFORD, one of the sport's toughest women riders, retired on a high at the Dulverton West meeting on Saturday.

"I've enjoyed a lot of good times but I've also had a lot of injuries," Blackford said. "The rider, 29, four times women's champion for the Devon and Cornwall area, and once runner-up in the national title, added: 'It's getting out of control when I've still got some really nice horses to ride, but I always wanted to make this decision.'"

Few would begrudge Blackford her farewell success at a local course, but it was overshadowed by a bizarre incident in this event, involving Chilipour ridden by the former men's champion, Jamie Jukes.

In a heads-down finish, involving four horses, the grey was two lengths up and in the process of being driven to victory by the steep run-in when he faltered, confused by a tape placed across the course to funnel the runners to the left of a fence, situated a few yards before the winning line.

His three closest pursuers, led by Link Copper, galloped past and Jukes was fined £25 for 'failing to familiarise himself with the course'.

The unconsolable rider pointed out that a notice board at the changing room, handwritten and undoubtedly ambiguous, stated horses should go to the right of the fence (he had finished to the right of it in previous years), adding that he had walked the course.

Thelosing trainer, Victor Darnall, was philosophical about the mishap, and later cheered when Dance Fever won for his yard in a division of the maiden, while Tim Mitchell went second in the men's championship by riding a treble on Still In Business.

Andrew Dalton completed a double at the Golden Valley, on Andynorth and Shorn Wind, which took his tally to thirty for the season, two ahead of Mitchell, while Shake Five, attempting to be the season's champion horse, was surprisingly beaten by Grecian Lark at the Woodlawn Pychley.

MUSSELBURGH

THUNDERER 6.25 Captain Harry, 6.55 Broadway Melody, 7.25 Topsy, 7.65 Amphidextrous, 8.25 Dovebreast, 8.55 Jayrattar.

6.25 MAY MAIDEN STAKES

- 1 00-00 EMPRESS (6) (F) ... J ... 4
1 01 00-00 EMERALD (12) (F) ... J ... 3
1 02 00-00 BODIPY (11) (F) ... W ... 2

6.55 UNCLE FREDDIE SELLING STAKES

- 1 00-00 ANOTHER EPISODE (10) (F) ... J ... 4
1 01 00-00 BANQUET (18) (F) ... J ... 7
1 02 00-00 BOPEY (11) (F) ... R ... 7

7.25 PLAY ON WHEELS MAIDEN STAKES

- 1 00-00 OUT DAMMO (10) (F) ... D ... 2
1 01 00-00 DEVIATION (11) (F) ... J ... 1

7.55 QUEENS STAND FOR HOSPITALITY HANDICAP

- 1 410-00 LITTLE MISS HOOKER (13) (F) ... J ... 7
1 420-00 AMBROSIO (11) (F) ... J ... 6
1 430-00 ALLEN ACADEMY (11) (F) ... J ... 6

8.25 MUSSELBURGH MAY HANDICAP

- 1 40-00 RYMER'S RASCAL (11) (F) ... R ... 6
1 41-00 BARNUM CROSS (20) (F) ... R ... 6
1 42-00 CROSS CROSS (20) (F) ... R ... 6

8.55 MUSSELBURGH HONEST TOWN HANDICAP

- 1 4-14 FEAR NOT (5) (F) ... M ... 1
1 4-23 HIREFIELD STAR (5) (F) ... B ... 7
1 4-33 CROSS CROSS (20) (F) ... R ... 6

COURSE SPECIALISTS

- TRAINERS: M, S, W, B, 5 winners from 12 courses, 25.0%.

WINDSOR

THUNDERER 6.10 Scatbrey, 6.40 Ingenious, 7.10 Descant, 7.40 High Tension, 8.10 Piegale, 8.40 Myzomel.

6.10 SUNLEY CLAIMING STAKES

- 1 (15) 64-00 BE VALIANT (8) (F) ... J ... 6
1 (16) 65-00 SCATBREY (16) (F) ... J ... 8

6.40 MERCHANTS B F MAIDEN STAKES

- 1 (1) 00-00 BROADWAY MELODY (5) (F) ... M ... 6
1 (2) 00-00 DOCTOR SPIN (20) (F) ... J ... 6
1 (3) 00-00 WINDSOR (11) (F) ... J ... 6

7.10 RODENSTOCK SPECTACLE CONDITIONS STAKES

- 1 (1) 210-00 HAY (15) (F) ... C ... 6
1 (2) 00-00 WESTVIEW FLYER (20) (F) ... R ... 6
1 (3) 00-00 COLLIER BLUE T (15) (F) ... J ... 6

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER 2.15 Domingo Flyer, 2.45 Head Gardener, 3.15 Pharty Dancer, 3.45 Crowstar, 4.15 Stanvines, 4.45 Falco Green, 5.15 River Ensign.

2.15 LONDON HANDICAP

- 1 400- SWAN ISLAND (21) (F) ... M ... 6
1 401 SEA SPOUSE (14) (F) ... M ... 6
1 402 SEA WIND (10) (F) ... M ... 6

2.45 EDINBURGH CLAIMING LIMITED STAKES

- 1 150- ZORBA (11) (F) ... J ... 6
1 151 MALK (11) (F) ... J ... 6
1 152 RIVAL BID (21) (F) ... M ... 6

3.15 BIRMINGHAM HANDICAP

- 1 2411- FIELD OF VISION (6) (F) ... M ... 6
1 2412 PREMIER DANCE (2) (F) ... M ... 6
1 2413 DUNDEE (11) (F) ... M ... 6

3.45 EDINBURGH CLAIMING LIMITED STAKES

- 1 0-50 TEN PAST SIX (14) (F) ... M ... 6
1 0-51 BALLYVAUGHAN (11) (F) ... M ... 6
1 0-52 GREENHAWK (14) (F) ... M ... 6

4.15 EDF CARDIFF MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES

- 1 1- BY THE GLASS P (11) (F) ... D ... 6
1 2- TANGI (5) (F) ... M ... 6
1 3- LUCKY CROWN (7) (F) ... M ... 6

4.45 HULL SELLING STAKES

- 1 2081 PALACE GREEN (5) (F) ... M ... 6
1 2082 LARK SPIRE (12) (F) ... M ... 6
1 2083 CLASSIC ASTUTE (11) (F) ... D ... 6

5.15 LIVERPOOL HANDICAP

- 1 0088 THE WOODCOTE (20) (F) ... J ... 6
1 0089 NEWLANDS CORNER (20) (F) ... J ... 6
1 0090 DESERT WANDER (10) (F) ... C ... 6

COURSE SPECIALISTS

- TRAINERS: J, A, M, W, 4 winners from 16 courses, 25.0%.

7.40 SCOTTISH EDUITABLE HANDICAP

- 1 (1) 64-1 BERRILLANCE (5) (F) ... J ... 6
1 (2) 65-00 LADY CHARLOTTE (15) (F) ... D ... 6
1 (3) 66-00 MAMMATHA (25) (F) ... S ... 6

8.40 RODENSTOCK CLUB CHALLENGE MAIDEN FILLES STAKES

- 1 (1) 00-00 BUNNIP A DASH (5) (F) ... D ... 6
1 (2) 00-00 THE STRONG (5) (F) ... M ... 6
1 (3) 00-00 WILD WATTLE (11) (F) ... J ... 6

COURSE SPECIALISTS

- TRAINERS: R, J, H, 3 winners from 16 courses, 18.75%.

MILE AND YOU ORDE

0930 168+ 101 201 102 202 103 203 104 204 120 200 FULL RESULTS SERVICE 128

WINDSOR MUSSELBURGH TRIST FULL RESULTS SERVICE 128

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WINDSOR MUSSELBURGH TRIST FULL RESULTS SERVICE 128



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it's the business

4 steps to La Manga.....

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Register your company golf day with The Times MeesPierson Corporate Golf Challenge, and compete with over 1,000 other companies for a place in the 1998 Final at the La Manga Club Resort in Spain.

2 Hold your Company Golf Day



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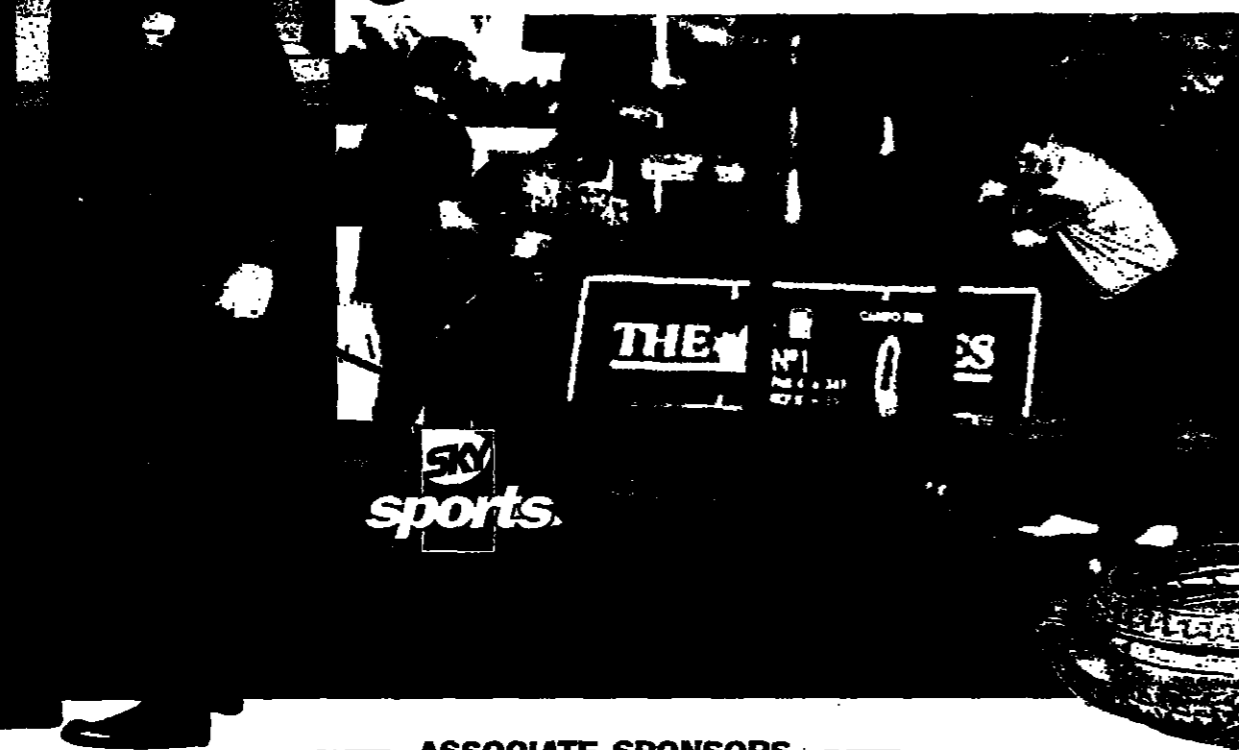
At least one in three chance that the qualifiers from your company golf day could go forward to represent your company in one of the fourteen Regional Finals held in October. The winners of the

3 Qualify for the Regional Finals



Regional Finals will qualify to play in the National Final in La Manga in November, to be shown on Sky Sports.

4 Televised National Final



For further information and registration details call the

Challenge Hotline

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or Faxback 0660 600 667

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Antecedents
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Antecedents relevant in committal for sentence

Regina v Warley Magistrates' Court, Ex parte Director of Public Prosecutions... Queen's Bench Divisional Court... Magistrates dealing with offences which were tried either in the magistrates' court or in the crown court...

LORD JUSTICE KENNEDY said the case concerned offences tried either in the magistrates' court or in the crown court... Section 17A of the 1980 Act... The court was to consider whether, having regard to the nature of the case, whether the circumstances gave it a serious character...

Magistrates' court was considering whether an accused should be sent to prison... All relevant aspects of character and antecedents could be taken into consideration before a decision was made... The plea indicated that the magistrates' court to proceed as if the proceedings constituted from the beginning the summary trial...

Hearing a case after dismissal

Environment Agency v Campbell and Another... In R v Dabhadre... The Queen's Bench Divisional Court held allowing an appeal by way of case stated from a decision of Workington Magistrates on December 17, 1997...

Remedial constructive trust cannot be imposed on assets

In re Polly Peck International plc (No 4)... LORD JUSTICE MUMMERY said that the applicants wished to commence proceedings against Polly Peck International plc, a holding company that had been controlled by Mr Asif Nadir, a Turkish Cypriot...

jurisdiction to entertain the proposed action by virtue of the rule in British South Africa Co v CIA de Mozambique... The applicants contended that the property had been occupied and exploited without their authority by subsidiary companies of PPI or by persons acting for or at the direction of the administrators...

But it could not be legitimately moved by judicial decision down a road signed "no entry" by Parliament... The judgment is thus entitled to conclude that the court would have had jurisdiction to entertain the proposed action under that section...

The magistrates' refusal to hear the new information led on December 17 was on the basis that it would be an abuse of process for the court to sit on November 12 unless they had entered pleas of guilty and probably not even then in the absence of the prosecutor...

Outer House

Spence v Wilson and Others (No 2)... LORD EASSIE said that it had been referred to a series of statutory provisions dealing at different times with the interaction between social security benefits and the assessment of damages...

Scots Law Report May 18 1998

Yule v South Lanarkshire Council... LORD PHILIP, sitting in the Outer House of the Court of Session, so held, repelling a plea of ultra vires in a petition for judicial review brought on behalf of Rhoda Yule...

Council can include property given away

to public funding in respect of accommodation provided for her in a nursing home... The petitioner had transferred title to that house to her granddaughter for nil consideration in February 1995, reserving a life interest to herself...

Outer House

It appeared to his Lordship that if circumstances applying at the time of the first action changed to a material extent in relation to either the grounds of action or the remedy sought, there should be no immediate assumption that the second action would be subject to a plea of res judicata... It was a question of fact and degree in every case.

Maintaining status quo in employment

Anderson v Pringle of Scotland Ltd... LORD PROSSER said that the petitioner had been an employee of the respondents for many years... It had been submitted that interdict or interim interdict was incompetent in the circumstances...

Bringing second action on same facts

Short's Trustee v Chung (No 2)... LORD JOHNSTON held that a second action was brought seeking a different remedy in relation to the same facts as the first action... The petitioner sought a different remedy in relation to the same facts as the first action...

Outer House

Mr James Peoples, QC, for the petitioner; Mr Ian Truscott, QC, for the respondents... LORD PROSSER said that the petitioner had been an employee of the respondents for many years...

Outer House

It appeared to his Lordship that if circumstances applying at the time of the first action changed to a material extent in relation to either the grounds of action or the remedy sought, there should be no immediate assumption that the second action would be subject to a plea of res judicata...

MILE
AS YOU
AND
ORDE

Power to hear appeal from leave order

Empress Reinsurance Co v Minister of Finance (Bermuda) and Others. Before Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Lloyd of Berwick, Lord Hoffmann, Lord Clyde and Lord Hutton.

The Court of Appeal of Bermuda had jurisdiction to hear an appeal from an order discharging leave to apply for an order of certiorari as an appeal from the grant or refusal of such leave was a true appeal and as such was not caught by the rule in Lane v Esdaile [1891] AC 210. The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council so held in allowing an appeal by the applicant, Kemper Reinsurance Co, against a decision of the Court of Appeal of Bermuda which had held that it had no jurisdiction to hear an appeal against the grant or refusal of leave to apply for certiorari. The applicant had sought to quash the consent granted by the Minister of Finance to Electrical Mutual Liability Insurance Company Ltd (Emlico) being permitted to transfer its domicile to Bermuda and the subsequent registration of Emlico in Bermuda by the Registrar of Companies.

order granting or refusing an order of mandamus, prohibition or certiorari. The Attorney-General of Bermuda submitted that that section constituted an exhaustive code of appeals under the Act and impliedly excluded any appeal under section 12 of the Court of Appeal Act 1964, of Bermuda, against the refusal of leave. That inference could not be drawn. The requirement of leave did not appear in the 1978 Act at all. It was introduced by the Administration of Justice (Prerogative Writs) Rules 1978 (SI 1978/2004) made under section 14 of the 1978 Act and had to be read in that context. An order made or refused under the 1978 Rules could only be set aside on the general right of appeal in section 12 by express words or a necessary implication from the rules themselves. The question was therefore whether the requirement of leave to issue a summons for an order of certiorari was sufficiently analogous to a requirement of leave to appeal to attract the reasoning in Lane v Esdaile and Stevenson's case and enable a court to say that an appeal from the grant or refusal of such leave would so frustrate the policy of requiring leave as to show, by necessary intendment and "the nature of the thing", that such orders were excluded from the general right of appeal in section 12 of the 1964 Act. In principle it was not possible to say that the very nature of the leave requirement for an order of certiorari excluded, or made absurd the possibility of an appeal. But unless their Lordships considered it very difficult to find the necessary intendment restricting the general right of appeal conferred by section 12. It might be appropriate, as a matter of policy, to restrict that

right of appeal, but that was a matter for legislation rather than judicial interpretation. The jurisdiction of the English Court of Appeal, like that of the Bermuda Court of Appeal, was exclusively appellate in character. Sections 18 and 19 of the Judicature Act 1873, which established the original jurisdiction of the Court of Appeal, conferred upon it the jurisdiction of the High Court only "for all the purposes of and incidental to the hearing and determination of any appeal within its jurisdiction" and that remained the position under section 15 of the Supreme Court Act 1981, which was the statute currently in force. It seemed that in some of the cases which had been cited, the nature of a renewed application ex parte to the Court of Appeal under Order 53, rule 14(3) of the Rules of the Supreme Court might have been misunderstood. Their Lordships considered that a renewed application to the Court of Appeal under Order 53, rule 14(3) was a true appeal, with a regularly entertained and a regularly entertained nature. If the rule had been intended to create an anomalous exception to the principle in Lane v Esdaile it would hardly have been restricted to the refusal of applications ex parte. It should logically have been extended to appeals from an inter partes hearing and from a refusal to discharge such leave. But appeals against such orders were regularly entertained and their existence was inconsistent with the application of the principle in Lane v Esdaile to appeals from the refusal of leave to apply for judicial review. That brought their Lordships to the decision in the House of Lords in In re Duckwari plc [1997] 1 WLR 2, where Lord Diplock had given no explanation as to why he considered that the case was covered by Lane v Esdaile. He went on to say that Susham v Immigration Appeal Tribunal [1977] AC 259, in which such an appeal had been entertained, and had eventually been rejected only by a bare majority, had been entertained per incuriam. It would not be right for their Lordships to make any comment upon that decision in its application to appeals from the English Court of Appeal to the House of Lords. But the judgment expressly disclaimed any expression of view upon the nature of the procedure whereby this appeal moved from the Divisional Court to the Court of Appeal. The decision was therefore not inconsistent with their Lordships' opinion that the application to the Court of Appeal was a true appeal, not excluded by the principle in Lane v Esdaile. Their Lordships accepted that that conclusion made it difficult to identify the reasoning by which the House of Lords decided that the principle applied to a further appeal to the House of Lords and that it was understandable that the Court of Appeal of Bermuda should have treated In re Polk as authority on the point before them. Nevertheless, the limited nature of the ratio decidendi of Lane v Esdaile as explained by the Court of Appeal in Stevenson, the importance of the House of Lords' applications for leave to appeal and applications for leave to apply for judicial review and the long-standing practice of the English Court of Appeal to entertain such appeals had persuaded their Lordships that whatever may have been the reasoning in In re Polk, it was not applicable to this case. Solicitors: Lovell White Durrant, Charles Russell; Freshfields.

Assessing loss to reflect damage

Edward Bannister, QC and Mr Phillip Hoser for Offerventure and Mr Cooper. LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said that the principal matter for consideration was the ambit of the indemnity against loss and damage to which Duckwari was entitled under section 322(b) of the 1985 Act. Duckwari had entered into an arrangement whereby it acquired a non-cash asset of the requisite value from Offerventure who was connected with a director of Duckwari, Mr Cooper. This was a contravention of section 320. It was with the consequences of that contravention that the present stage of the proceedings was concerned. The essential question was whether the "loss or damage resulting from the arrangement or transaction" was to be assessed at the time of the purchase but subsequently when there had been a huge depreciation in the value of the property. The judge had preferred the former view. The assets of a company being valued in an insolvency, the directors although not accurately described as trustees of those assets, had always been treated as trustees of assets which were in their hands or under their control. It had been held that directors who caused company funds to be applied in breach of the provisions in section 54 of the Companies Act 1948, prohibiting a company from giving financial assistance for the acquisition of its own shares, were to be treated as trustees of those funds: Belmont Finance Corporation Ltd v Williams Furniture Ltd (No 2) [1980] 1 All ER 393, 405. Similarly by virtue of section 320(1) Duckwari was prohibited from entering into the arrangement with Offerventure pursuant to which it purchased the property unless the arrangement was first approved by a resolution of Duckwari in general meeting. Such approval not having been obtained, the payment of the purchase price and other assets of the company were applied to Duckwari's funds which, had section 320 stood alone, the directors responsible would have been liable to make good as if they were trustees. If a trustee applied trust moneys in the acquisition of an unauthorised investment, he was liable to restore to the trust the amount of the loss incurred on its

Power to detain mental patient implies treatment

Regina v Mental Health Act Commission, Ex parte Smith. Before Mr Justice Latham [Judgment May 11]. Section 120(b)(ii) of the Mental Health Act 1983 conferred not only a power to detain a patient but also the necessary implied powers to manage, control and treat patients. Mr Justice Latham so held in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division, quashing an application for judicial review, quashing the decision of the Mental Health Act Commission, on April 17 1997, declining jurisdiction to investigate certain categories of complaint made by Ms Chantelle Smith to the commission in respect of the period during which her decepted brother, Kenneth Sappleton, was compulsorily detained under the 1983 Act.

... (b) To investigate - (i) any complaint made by a person in respect of a matter that occurred while he was detained under this Act in a hospital or mental nursing home and which he considers has not been satisfactorily dealt with by the managers of that hospital or mental nursing home and (ii) any other complaint as to the exercise of the powers or the discharge of the duties conferred or imposed by this Act in respect of a person who is or has been so detained. Section 3 of the Act gave power to the hospital to admit and detain the patient for the purposes of treatment provided that conditions set out in that section had been met. By section 6, a proper application for the admission of a patient under section 3 shall be sufficient authority to justify the detention of the patient and his conveyance to hospital, and his subsequent detention in hospital. By section 63, the consent of the patient was not required for any medical treatment given to him for the mental disorder from which he was suffering, apart from treatment falling within section 57 or section 58, provided the treatment was given under the direction of the responsible medical officer. Section 57 required that extreme forms of treatment, such as surgical operations for destroying brain tissue, required the patient's consent, together with other safeguards to ensure that not only was the treatment necessary, but that the patient understood the nature, purpose and likely effect of treatment. By section 62, sections 57 and 58 were not to apply in certain situations of urgency. Section 145, "medical treatment" included nursing, and also included care, habilitation and rehabilitation under medical supervision. Mr Richard Gordon, QC, for Ms Smith; Mr Rabinder Singh for the Commission. MR JUSTICE LATHAM said that the commission was a special health authority established to inspect and monitor institutions where patients were detained under the Mental Health Act 1983.

followed, he argued, that any complaint in relation to treatment was a complaint about the discharge of duty, and therefore equally a relevant complaint for the purposes of the subsection. Mr Gordon submitted that on a proper analysis of the Act, the managers and the doctors were not only an express power to detain a patient but the necessary implied powers to manage, control and treat patients. Mr Singh submitted that the only relevant powers and duties were those which were expressly set out in the Act; that there were no express powers or duties which dealt with the management or control of patients; that the only powers or duties in relation to treatment were those set out in sections 57, 58, and 63 and that there was no power or duty imposed by the Act which related to risk assessment, which was why the commission refused to entertain complaints (i) and (ii) and accepted (iii) to a limited extent. His Lordship said it could be seen that while the Act made express provision for the admission and detention of a patient, it did not give any express power as to the management and control of the patient so detained. So far as treatment was concerned, the Act imposed specific duties in relation to the obtaining of consent in sections 57 and 58, and otherwise provided an express power to give medical treatment to a patient without his consent in section 63. Mr Gordon's argument was that, in order to give efficacy to the statutory structure, a power to manage and control a patient was to be implied into the Act, as was a duty to treat the patient in order to give effect to the purpose of section 3. He also referred to Poinsey v Griffiths [1976] AC 314 and R v Broadmoor Special Hospital Authority and Another, Ex parte S and Others [The Times February 17, 1998]. He further argued that since the power to detain under section 3 was solely for the purposes of treatment, implicit in the power to detain was the duty to treat. It

ambit of any investigations by virtue of section 120(2) which provided: "The arrangements made under this section in respect of the investigation of complaints may exclude matters from investigation in specified circumstances and shall not require any person exercising functions under the arrangements to undertake any investigation where he does not consider it appropriate to do so." Further, the jurisdiction would not extend to any complaints which were unrelated to detention management control or treatment, for example, food or bed linen, which were complaints the patient himself would be entitled to ask the respondent to investigate, provided that he did not consider that the complaint had been satisfactorily dealt with by the managers, pursuant to section 120(1)(b)(i). Mr Gordon also sought to rely upon breaches of The Mental Health Act 1983, section 120(1)(b)(ii) (3rd edition) (1997) HMSO prepared by the secretary of state pursuant to his duty under section 118 of the Act. He argued that because, under the Code, managers and medical practitioners were to have regard to whether the complaint was to be treated as a good practice, a breach of the Code amounted to a breach of duty under the Act. In his Lordship's view that argument failed. The only relevance of the Code was that if a relevant power or duty had been identified, the Code might provide some guidance as to whether or not the power was wrongfully exercised or the duty breached. Solicitors: Ritchie Samuel; Treasury Solicitor.

Whether permission required

Saxby v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another. Before Mr Christopher Lockhart-Mummary, QC [Judgment April 29]. On an application for planning permission, it was no longer open to a planning authority to decide whether planning permission was necessary for the proposed development. The established use procedure in sections 19 to 196 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as substituted by section 10 of the Planning and Compensation Act 1991, covered that issue. The fact that a development might not, in reality require planning permission was nevertheless a matter that could be given some weight when considering whether or not permission should be granted. Mr Christopher Lockhart-Mummary, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so held in refusing an application of David Saxby to quash the decision by an inspector appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment of his appeal against the refusal by Westminster City Council to grant him planning permission for two flats in Hyde Park Gardens. Mr Clive Newberry, QC, for the applicant; Miss Nathalie Lieven for the secretary of state. HIS LORDSHIP said that it was no longer open to an applicant, as part of an application for planning permission, to submit as evidence the 1990 Act, expressly or impliedly to seek a decision that planning permission was not required for the development for which plan-

European Law Report Luxembourg

Hotelier made tourists pay twice

Verein für Konsumenteninformation v Österreichische Kreditversicherungs AG. Case C-364/96. Before C. Guldmann, President of Chamber and Judges M. Wathelet, J. C. Molitoro de Almeida, J.-P. Puisseux and L. Sevón. Advocate General G. Tesauro [Opinion December 4, 1997]. [Judgment May 14]. Holidaymakers who had already paid a package holiday operator the cost of their accommodation but, following the operator's insolvency, were compelled by the holiday operator to pay him again before they could leave the hotel and return home, and who claimed from the operator's insurer a refund of the payment to the holiday operator in the protection of the Community directive on package holidays.

The plaintiff, acting on behalf of the customers, sought redress from the operator's insurer, relying on an Austrian law which, in implementation of Article 7 of Council Directive 90/34/EEC of June 13, 1990 on package travel, travel packages and package tours (OJ 1990 L188, 259), required travel organisers to take out a policy with an insurance company to guarantee holidaymakers a refund of money paid over, in respect of services not provided as a result of the organiser's insolvency, and the costs of repatriation incurred as a result of the insolvency. The insurer refused to refund the amounts paid by the customers to the hotel owner, and the issue in proceedings brought by the plaintiff was whether the circumstances were covered by article 7, which provided: "The organiser shall provide sufficient evidence of security for the refund of money paid over and for the repatriation of the consumer in the event of insolvency." In its judgment the Fifth Chamber of the Court of Justice held: "The purpose of article 7 was to protect consumers against the risks arising from the insolvency of the package holiday or tour organiser. Those risks stemmed from the payment in advance of the price of the package holiday and the issue of liability between the travel organiser and the various providers of services which, in combination, made up the package. The result prescribed by article 7 therefore entailed the grant to package travellers of rights guar-

anteed to be interpreted so as to give the benefit of the security under article 7 to a provider of services, not a party to that contract, who would thus indirectly obtain compensation for his services through the consumer whom he had "taken hostage". In their view, such an interpretation of article 7 might encourage providers of services to imitate the actions of the hotelier in the present case. However, in such situations insurers could, if they considered it necessary, take proceedings against the hotelier and they were better placed to do so than holidaymakers. Moreover, the insurer's obligation was to refund money paid over. Since a holidaymaker who paid for his accommodation twice, first to the package organiser and then again to the hotelier, was in fact lodged at his own expense, the sums paid to the organiser would have to be refunded as the services agreed on were not supplied by the organiser as a result of the insolvency. On those grounds the European Court ruled: Article 7 of Directive 90/34 was to be interpreted as requiring, as security for the refund of money paid over, a situation in which the purchaser of a package holiday who had paid the travel organiser for the costs of his accommodation was compelled, following the travel organiser's insolvency, to pay the hotelier for his accommodation again in order to be able to leave the hotel and return home.

Regina v Riverside Mental Health Trust, Ex parte Huzzev. Before Mr Justice Latham [Judgment April 29]. When a patient's responsible medical officer made a report to hospital managers in accordance with section 25 of the Mental Health Act 1983, opposing a discharge application, the managers were not restricted to criteria set out in section 3 of the Act when reviewing the patient's detention. The manager had a discretion to discharge and they had to consider whether or not they were persuaded that the patient, if discharged, would be likely to act in a manner dangerous to other persons or to himself. Mr Justice Latham so held in the Queen's Bench Division granting Gary Charles Alfred Huzzev an order of certiorari, quashing the decision of the managers of Hor-

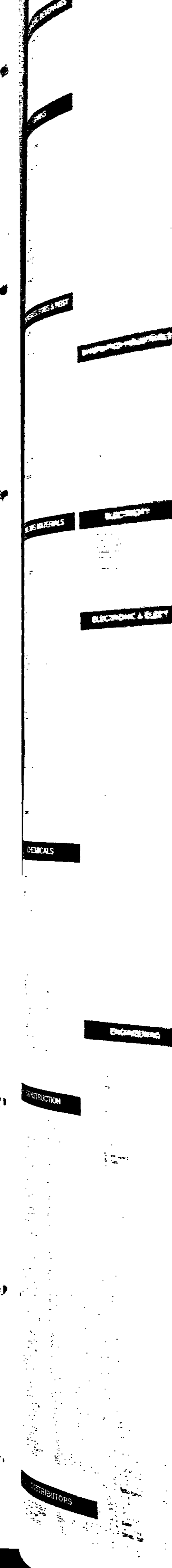
Reasons for assessment refusal not required

Regina v Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and Regions and Another, Ex parte Marson. Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Pill and Lord Justice Mummery [Judgment May 8]. In refusing to require an environmental impact assessment under the Town and Country Planning (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations (SI 1988 No 1199) in relation to an industrial estate development project, the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and Regions was not required to give any reasons. The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment on a renewed application for leave to apply for judicial review following the refusal by Mr Justice Jowitt on March 23, 1998, to grant the applicant, Mr Anthony Marson, leave to apply for an order of certiorari to quash a decision of the secretary of state not to require an environmental impact assessment in respect of a proposed development by Parcelforce on a 17-hectare site near Coventry Airport. Mr Richard Gordon, QC and Mr Gregory Jones for the applicant; Mr Phillip Liveness for the secretary of state; Mr Christopher Whybrow, QC and Mr Michael Redman, solicitor, for Parcelforce. LORD JUSTICE PILL said that the 1988 Regulations were intended to implement in part Council Directive (85/337/EEC) (OJ 1985 L175/40), article 2 of which provided: "(3) Member states shall adopt all measures necessary to ensure that, before consent is given, projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue of their nature, size or location are made subject to an assessment with regard to their effects." The applicant, acting for local residents and parish councils, sought a direction from the secretary of state that environmental assessment was required. In February 1998 the secretary of state wrote that in his opinion the proposed development would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue of its nature, size and location. By reference to the legislative framework and also by applying standards of fairness to the circumstances set out it was not arguable that the decision of the secretary of state should be quashed for lack of reasons. Neither the Directive nor the 1988 Regulations expressly required reasons to be given for a decision not to direct an environmental impact assessment. The applicant's right was not a right to such an assessment, but to a decision from the secretary of state as to whether such an assessment was required. The decision required an exercise of judgment by the secretary of state and he was left with a discretion in his exercise. The grounds for a decision was only one part of the procedures provided for planning control and the protection of the environment. Whether or not there was an assessment, the planning authority, in determining applica-

Managers not bound by doctor's report

Regina v Riverside Mental Health Trust, Ex parte Huzzev. Before Mr Justice Latham [Judgment April 29]. When a patient's responsible medical officer made a report to hospital managers in accordance with section 25 of the Mental Health Act 1983, opposing a discharge application, the managers were not restricted to criteria set out in section 3 of the Act when reviewing the patient's detention. The manager had a discretion to discharge and they had to consider whether or not they were persuaded that the patient, if discharged, would be likely to act in a manner dangerous to other persons or to himself. Mr Justice Latham so held in the Queen's Bench Division granting Gary Charles Alfred Huzzev an order of certiorari, quashing the decision of the managers of Hor-

مكتبة من الأصيل



هكذا من الأصل

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES and BANKS.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for BREWERIES, PUBS & REST and DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for BUILDING MATERIALS and ELECTRICITY.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for CHEMICALS and CONSTRUCTION.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for ELECTRONIC & ELECT and ENGINEERING.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for HEALTHCARE and HOUSEHOLD GOODS & TEXT.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for LEISURE & HOTELS and OIL & GAS.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for BRITISH FUNDS, SHORTS (under 5 years), and MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years).

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for INVESTMENT TRUSTS and FOOD MANUFACTURERS.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for ENGINEERING, VEHICLES and PHARMACEUTICALS.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for PRINTING & PAPER and MINING.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for PROPERTY and TRANSPORT.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for WATER and RETAILERS, FOOD.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for RETAILERS, GENERAL and ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for DISTRIBUTORS and other financial data.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for OTHER FINANCIAL and SUPPORT SERVICES.

Table with columns: Company, Price, % Chg, P/E, Dividend Yield. Includes sub-sections for MEDIA and PHARMACEUTICALS.

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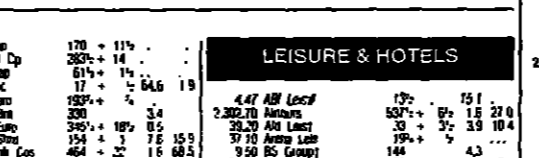
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Birmingham welcomes the largest convention of its kind in the world.

(Needless to say, it's going to be a roaring success.)

Lions Clubs International Convention June 29th - July 3rd



LEISURE & HOTELS

OIL & GAS

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

UNLISTED

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation at:

LONGS (over 15 years)

MILE YOU AND ORDE

Storehouse set for a welcome improvement in earnings

TODAY
Interims: Cambridge Antibody Technology, Celltech, Diploma, Paragon, RIM, UFF, Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries, Finales: Fine Art Developments, Style Holdings, Stylo.

TOMORROW
Interims: Aberdeen Asset Management, Berlford, Care UK, Compass, Enterprise Inns, Greenalls, Hozzlock, Imperial Tobacco, Metrolife, Royal & Sun Alliance, Sifma, Finales: British & American Investment Trust, British Energy, Marks & Spencer, Merchant Retail Group, Warrford Investments. Economic statistics: April retail price index, April public sector borrowing requirement, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors housing market survey.

WEDNESDAY
Interims: Countryside Properties, Saggeidge Brick, Carlton Communications, Majestic, H Young, Finales: Blacks Leisure, British Telecom, Glenmorangie, Land Securities, Photobition, Versailles, Wyndham.

THURSDAY
Interims: Brooke Industrial, Finales: Chamberlin & Hill, Creative Publishing, Exploration Co, PowerGen, Southnews, Storehouse. Economic statistics: April retail sales, April money supply, April car production.

FRIDAY
Interims: Concentric. Finales: Castings. Economic statistics: First-quarter GDP.

STOREHOUSE is thought likely to produce an improvement in earnings, with pre-tax profits up from £18.4 million to £24 million. Analysts predict some improvement in sales at Bhs and Mothercare, but are concerned about continual heavy investment in stores. "They want Bhs to replicate the Debenhams recovery scenario, with a reduction in discounting," Robert Miller at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson said. Market talk that its chairman, Alan Smith, may replace the current chief executive, Keith Edelman, with Stuart Rose is thought to be no more than idle speculation. But one analyst said the appointment of Mr Rose, who knows Mr Smith from when they both worked at Marks & Spencer and who was chief executive of Argos during the Great Universal Stores takeover bid, would be welcomed. "Stuart showed he could produce a stream of sensible retail ideas, which is what Storehouse needs," he said.

MARKS & SPENCER is expected to reveal that it has taken a big hit from the strength of sterling when it announces its full-year profits tomorrow. Analysts are expecting the strong pound to have knocked as much as £40 million off profits, leaving it with pre-tax profit in the region of £1.10 to £1.12 billion (£1.104 billion). After years of overseas expansion, which has resulted in it exporting some £500 million-worth of St Michael goods abroad each year, M&S is expected to have fared particularly badly in the Far East and continental Europe, with little improvement expected by analysts to appear in the current year. Other concerns about the group are to do with its food sales, which are believed to be running below the sector average. This leaves the level of growth in clothing sales more important than ever.

BASS: It is a chastening thought that Bass, which until relatively recently was castigated for inactivity, has been involved in more than £4 billion worth of deals in the past six months. As Goldman Sachs, the broker, says in a recent research note: "A sleepy brewer it is not." The raft of assets disposals is expected to restrict interim pre-tax profits to around £324 mil-



Keith Edelman: market speculation focused on his role as chief executive at Storehouse

lion, a rise of 2 per cent, although its recent share consolidation should mean a 9 per cent rise in earnings per share to 26.9p with an interim payout of 9.1p (8.3p). Since its last results, the group has transformed itself, selling its Gala bingo and Coral bookmaking chains as well as a string of pubs, while acquiring Inter-Continental Hotels. Goldman predicts underlying profits growth of 11 per cent in managed pubs, 8-9 per cent in hotels (there is no contribution from Inter-Continental), 10 per cent from leisure, 3 per cent from soft drinks and 1 per cent from brewing.

CARLTON: The company is expected to reveal the scars of both the Asian economic crisis

and its involvement in the launch of British Digital Broadcasting (BDB) when it unveils interim profits on Wednesday. The pre-tax figure is expected to fall from £163 million to around £147 million though Michael Green, chairman, will probably temper the effect of this by raising the dividend from 4.9p. The Quantel film and television products side is the business which will be hit by Asia woes. Meanwhile, the expense of launching BDB, a joint venture with Granada, will also be a drag though analysts are optimistic about its long-term prospects.

BRITISH ENERGY is likely to say it has eliminated its debt when it reports full-year figures

ECONOMIC PROSPECTS

Analysts kept on their toes

This week's welter of economic statistics will be more closely watched than normal after last week's surprise rise in earnings. The shock was enough for analysts to start questioning the ability of the Monetary Policy Committee to keep a lid on inflation and had one working out the impact of a likely £3.60-an-hour minimum wage for the over-25s. A worrying 0.5 per cent to 0.75 per cent on average earnings next year was the answer.

It will come as no comfort that tomorrow is likely to see another set of inflation figures above target. Headline inflation is expected to have risen to 3.9 per cent in April, up from 3.5 per cent in March. The underlying rate, which excludes mortgages, is expected to have risen from 2.6 per cent to 2.8 per cent, above the target of 2.5 per cent.

The inflation rise for April, however, will largely be discounted by markets so long as it can be pinned on the known Budget rises in petrol duty and increases in council taxes and water charges.

Also tomorrow, economists will have their first taste of the new fiscal year for government finances. The Government is not thought to have spent much in April, leaving analysts forecasting a repayment of £200 million to the public coffers.

Thursday sees retail sales figures for April. A rise of 0.5 per cent on March is expected, giving a year-on-year rise of 4.6 per cent, up from 4.1 per cent in March. Retail sales figures will be accompanied by money supply data for April. A rise of 10.1 per cent in the broad M₄ money supply figure is expected.

The week ends with figures for economic growth in the first quarter. GDP is expected to have risen by 0.4 per cent on the final quarter of 1997, making for a year-on-year rise of 2.8 per cent.

All the while, economists will be looking both East and West. As last week's Indonesian riots proved, the Asian worry has yet to go away. To the West, the global impact of the Asian crisis is expected to be enough to persuade the Federal Reserve's Open Market Committee to keep US interest rates on hold.

GEORGE SIVELL

The Sunday Times: Buy Raccal. The Sunday Telegraph: Buy Tiltbury Douglas, Clinical Computing, Charlton Athletic, Lopex, Hercules Property Services; Sell Taylor Nelson AGB, Mail on Sunday; Buy ICM Computer Network, Porter Chadburn. Express on Sunday: Buy Dobbies Garden Centre, Alday, Lambert Smith Hampton; Sell EW Fact, Air London.

Bank	Bank
Sells	Buy
Australia S	2.88
Austria Sch	21.40
Belgium B	33.82
Canada S	2.488
Cyprus Cyp£	0.987
Denmark Kr	11.84
Finland Mk	0.336
France F	10.20
Germany D	3.07
Greenland Dk	12.25
Hong Kong Hk\$	1.29
Iceland P	1.21
Ireland P	0.58
Italy Lire	3025
Japan Yen	222.89
Norway Kr	0.075
Netherlands Gld	3.458
New Zealand S	3.19
Norway Kr	12.78
Portugal Esc	302.58
S Africa Rd	13.41
Spain P	25.22
Sweden Kr	13.41
Switzerland Fr	2.27
Taiwan NTD	41.625
UK S	1.738
USA S	1.593

Littlewoods to offer banking services as part of restructure

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

LITTLEWOODS is set to be the next retailer to enter the financial services market as it looks for ways to boost its fortunes ahead of a possible flotation.

The proposed move into banking is one result of a thorough review of the business carried out by Barry Gibson, who took over as chief executive last September.

Mr Gibson, who joined from BAA, will this week tell 850 members of Littlewoods management at a meeting in Liverpool of his plans to restructure the business. He will then spend seven days on the road, visiting sites around the country and laying out his plans to up to 6,000 of the 27,000 workforce.

Although the restructuring is intended to cut costs, Littlewoods does not expect significant head office job cuts. There has already been one



Barry Gibson will be addressing managers and staff

casualty however. Bryan Mayoh, managing director of home shopping, has resigned because "he does not feel that he wants to be part of this changing environment". Littlewoods said.

The restructuring already has the support of the group's

32 family shareholders and is intended to get into shape for a possible flotation in about three years' time. A spokeswoman said that flotation is not on the agenda at present, but could be considered once the business is back on the growth track.

As part of its restructuring, Littlewoods is merging the management of its high street and mail order retailing divisions. It has appointed Mike Wynne, who was head of the high street side, to run the whole retail division.

Ladbroke in hotel negotiations

THE Great Western Royal Hotel at London's Paddington station looks likely to be taken over by Ladbroke's Hilton International chain under a management agreement (Dominic Walsh writes).

The hotel and gaming group is in talks with Muirgold, the hotel's owner, over a long-term operating contract that would see the property rebranded under the Hilton banner.

The two parties are thought to be planning a £50 million refurbishment of the 350-room hotel to four-star standard. The attraction of the deal to Hilton is the hotel's proximity to the London terminus of the new Heathrow Express rail link. The rail link is now fully operational following the opening of the station at Heathrow Airport.

The hotel will compete with at least two other luxury hotels in the area - the Regency and the Metropole, which is part of the Stak's chain.

CWC outsourcing will affect 1,000 employees

BY RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

CWC COMMUNICATIONS, the UK's largest cable group, is to farm out all its information technology and billing operations to a third party in a move that will affect 1,000 jobs.

Staff were told of the possibility last week as part of a continuing search for efficiency at the company put together last year by the merger of Mercury Communications and three cable companies - Nynex, Bell Cablemedia and Videotron.

There have been repeated rumours that CWC has had difficulties integrating its billing system for the entire group although the company insists that no unexpected problems have been experienced. Providing a single combined bill for cable's two main revenue streams, telephone services and cable television, has caused difficulties in the industry for years. IBM has now been given ten weeks to put together a plan for taking over all the IT and billing work and is the favourite to get the work. It is believed that a management-led team and Arthur Andersen, the consultants, are also making bids.

If CWC does finally decide to outsource all its IT function the company emphasises that



Wallace: normal practice

the people involved will have to be re-employed on the same terms. Graham Wallace, CWC chief executive, regards the move as a normal business. Many of such functions were outsourced at Granada, his previous employer.

Last week CWC announced that in the year to March its pre-tax profits nearly doubled to £151 million, although most of that came from the telephone operations of the former Mercury.

CWC believes it has successfully integrated its four constituent parts and established the Cable & Wireless brand name through a £50 million marketing campaign.

However, in addition to the likely outsourcing of IT, as many as 2,000 jobs are under threat through a detailed review of all operations. If Telewest's planned takeover of General Cable goes through it will become, by a narrow margin, the largest UK cable operator.

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THE FACTS

Turnover: £2.2 billion
Pre-tax profits: £302.5 million
Employees: 16,500
Overview: Household goods and pharmaceuticals group...

THE BOARD

The chief executive of Reckitt & Colman is Vernon Sankey, 49, who joined the company in 1971. Appointed a director in 1989, he moved up to chief executive in January 1992...

MENTION the name Reckitt & Colman and one might immediately think of Colman's mustard and a factory in Hull. The image is way out of date. In three years, a radical corporate overhaul has transformed the company beyond recognition...

The one constant - Colman's aside - is the brands on which Reckitt & Colman has built its name and fortune. They include Dettol, Disprin, Lemsip, Woolite, Mr Sheen, Harpic and Brasso. The company makes Nugget and Cherry shoe polish and Haze air freshener...

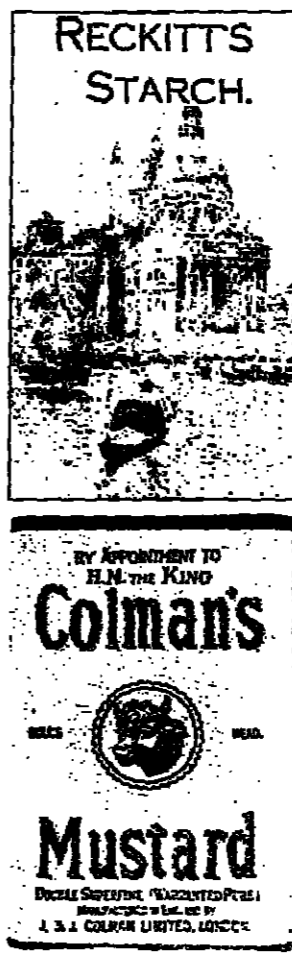
But Reckitt & Colman was in danger of throwing it all away. If ever there was a candidate for a hostile takeover - and Unilever has been mentioned more than once - then Reckitt & Colman was it. Radical action was needed. The catalyst came in January 1992, when Vernon Sankey was appointed chief executive.

Sankey says: "It was a very strong UK family based business, but it evolved by going to Commonwealth countries first and recruiting locally and allowing a tremendous amount of autonomy. The business, whilst an international business, was not a global business."

CORPORATE PROFILE: Reckitt & Colman



Vernon Sankey, top, and Alan Dalby have overseen dramatic change in the company with a country based system giving way to a global structure driven from the UK...



acquisitions and divestments, the figure is 92 per cent. Sankey says: "The company had that core which had been around some time, but was also into lots of other things - wine, contract cleaning, pigments, individual companies could do all kinds of things."

Reckitt was viewed as a fine company with some nice brands, but one which had grown tired. Country managers in South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and elsewhere had been allowed to do their own thing. There was little coherent strategy.

formulations, and allow for sharing of knowledge. Reckitt & Colman is now run as one business, as opposed to a holding company with general managers. Product launches are driven from the head office in Chiswick, West London (soon to be Windsor), rather than country by country.

WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY
"The company has gone through quite a transformation in the last couple of years. They have refocused themselves from being a country-by-country business to being a coherent global player in the household goods category. They've shifted up to the big league from being a parochial operator. Globalisation is where the market is going. They've seen the trend, and they've gone along with it."

Boyle-Midway, purchased in 1990, brought with it such American favourites as Woolite fabric wash, Easy-Off oven cleaners and Wizard air fresheners. Most significant of all was the purchase, in December 1994, of the household business of L&F Products, an American company, which brought with it what is now Reckitt & Colman's biggest brand, Lysol disinfectant.

Reckitt & Colman paid Eastman Kodak £1 billion for L&F, winning the company a vital foothold in the world's biggest household market. It now has 12 number one or number two brands in North America, and enjoys margins in the order of 17 per cent, compared with 8 to 10 per cent ten years ago.

ew. James, joined him as a partner, forming J&J Colman, which outgrew the mill and moved to Norwich in 1854. The company diversified into starch, wheat flour and laundry blue, bringing it into competition with Reckitt & Sons.

In 1903, J&J Colman bought Keen, Robinson & Company, maker of Keen's mustard (hence the saying, "keen as mustard") as well as spices, baby food and Robinson's Patent Barley Water. With both Reckitt & Sons and J&J Colman exporting to many of the same markets, there was much to be gained from collaboration, and in 1913, a joint company, Atlantis, was formed in South America. The businesses were formally merged into Reckitt & Colman Holdings in 1954.

Crisp Consulting deems Sankey 34 per cent overpaid, based on his relatively short spell as chief executive of a FTSE 100 company. He was paid £503,000 in 1997, but the imputed value of his share awards brought this up to £1.156 million during the year. This would normally earn him a "seven" on the fatcat scale.

However, Crisp takes the view that Sankey should be personally credited with adding at least half a billion pounds to the market value of the company last year. The share price rose from 713p to 974p during the period - largely down to his reforms. This earns him two bonus points. The non-executives are right in number and underpaid by about £6,000 each.

The company fares less glowingly on ethical expression. While internal measures for determining ethical behaviour are well-developed, Integrity Works says it needs to do more to display these to the world at large.

JON ASHWORTH

OUR VERDICT table with columns for Ethical expression, Fat-cat quotient, Financial record, Share performance, etc.

Treasury unveils financial services benchmark plan

By CAROLINE MERRELL

THE Treasury will today unveil its plans for benchmarking of financial services products. Under the scheme, which will be voluntary, the government will lay down a series of guidelines for consumers on the price, flexibility and transparency of pensions and savings products.

holder schemes are to be unveiled next month. The benchmarking system has already drawn fire from unit trust companies, who could see profits dented. Philip Warland, chief executive of the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds (AUITF), said: "If the Government proceeds with its current thoughts on benchmarking, then it will ensure that unit trusts are sold in bucket loads on the back of the benchmarking label. But it will be economically illiterate, politically inept and lethal for some consumers."



Peter Smith, director of IT at Land Registry, left, with M R Group's Patrick O'Connor

Online at Land Registry

By JASON NISSE

HOUSE buying and property conveyancing is to be revolutionised after an £8.9 million deal struck by Her Majesty's Land Registry, which will take it online. The Land Registry has awarded a contract to L&F Group, the document management contractors whose managing director is Patrick O'Connor, to scan in 17 million plans of homes and properties. This will be added to an existing database of 15.1 million text-based documents already held at the Land Registry's headquarters, computer centre and 23 district offices.

Oyston puts radio shares in trust

By RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR

OWEN Oyston, the multi-millionaire businessman jailed after being convicted of rape and indecent assault, has put his shares in four radio stations into a trust. The trustees, approved yesterday by the Radio Authority, the commercial radio industry regulator, are Tom Pendry, the Labour MP, and John Bargh, a farmer. The Radio Authority declined to say yesterday who the beneficiaries of the trust are but they are believed to be members of Mr Oyston's family. In December last year, after Mr Oyston lost his appeal against his conviction, the Radio Authority decided under broadcasting legislation that he was not a "fit and proper person" to hold radio licences. He then had the option of selling the stations, making an arrangement acceptable to the authority or having the licences revoked. One of the stations involved is in England - The Bay (Morecambe Bay) and the other three are in Northern Ireland - Heart Beat 1521 (Craigavon), Gold Beat (Cookstown) and City Beat 96.7 (Belfast). The Radio Authority wanted to ensure that Mr Oyston was unable to exercise any control over the stations. Business associates, family members and former employees were all deemed unacceptable as trustees. As convictions for rape stay permanently on the record Mr Oyston will not be considered a fit person to hold radio licences even when his sentence is served.

Big firms to be worst hit by slowdown

By ALASDAIR MURRAY, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

ECONOMIC growth will fall sharply during the rest of this year, with large companies bearing the brunt of the slowdown, a report published today claims. The BOI Business Trends Report shows business confidence falling from 100.0 in January to 99.6 in April, the lowest level for more than five years. The report, which analyses all the existing published economic survey material in a poll of polls, says that this drop in optimism is consistent with a decline in the rate of GDP growth to 1.9 per cent by the end of this year. At corporate level, optimism has fallen most sharply for large and medium-sized companies, while smaller firms have actually recorded a slight improvement in confidence during the first quarter of this year. The boom in part-time jobs has failed to help the unemployed back into work, a Joseph Rowntree Foundation report published today shows. The Foundation found that only a third of formerly unemployed workers who took part-time jobs were later able to move into permanent work.

US funds climb aboard bus sector

By MARTIN WALLER

AMERICAN funds have quietly bought stakes of up to 15 per cent in total in Britain's fast-growing private bus companies in anticipation that the sector will grow further after next month's White Paper on transport encourages drivers onto public transport. Declared US holdings in Stagecoach have gone as high as 12 per cent, with First-Group and National Express behind this. But these figures are almost certainly an underestimate because of stakes that have not been disclosed. Damian Brewer, transport analyst at Paribas, the broker, said the companies had "previously been seen in the market as UK plays".

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CHANGE ON WEEK

Table showing exchange rates for US dollar, German mark, and Exchange index.

STOCK MARKET

Table showing stock market indices: FT 30 share, FTSE 100, New York Dow Jones, Tokyo Nikkei Avg.

WORD-WATCHING

- Answers from page 39
ORREFORES (b) The name of the town in Sweden where glass is manufactured, used to designate glassware produced there and the style of decoration characteristic of it. A toponym. "Scandinavian elegance of design is, literally, crystallised in Orrefors glass."
RIGAUDON (a) A French dance. Same as the rigadon. Of obscure origin. "Rigadon is a Provencal dance in 3/2 time which was adopted into the suite and into the ballet of French opera in the late 17th century."
OORIAL (b) A wild sheep, a sub-species of Ovis orientalis, having a reddish coat and red, curved horns, found in northern India and other parts of central Asia. The Punjabi word is urial. "The orial, as this sheep is termed in the Salt Range and other districts of the Punjab, is not entitled to specific separation from the sha of Assam and Ladak."
SAMAN (c) A sacred text or verse forming the third of the four kinds of Vedas. The name of the Veda thus formed. In Sanskrit saman means a chant. "The Samaveda contains songs of lyrical character to be recited with melancholy."
SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE 1, Nc6! wins easily, eg. 1... bxc2; 2, Qxc6+ or 1... Qd7; 2, Rc1+.

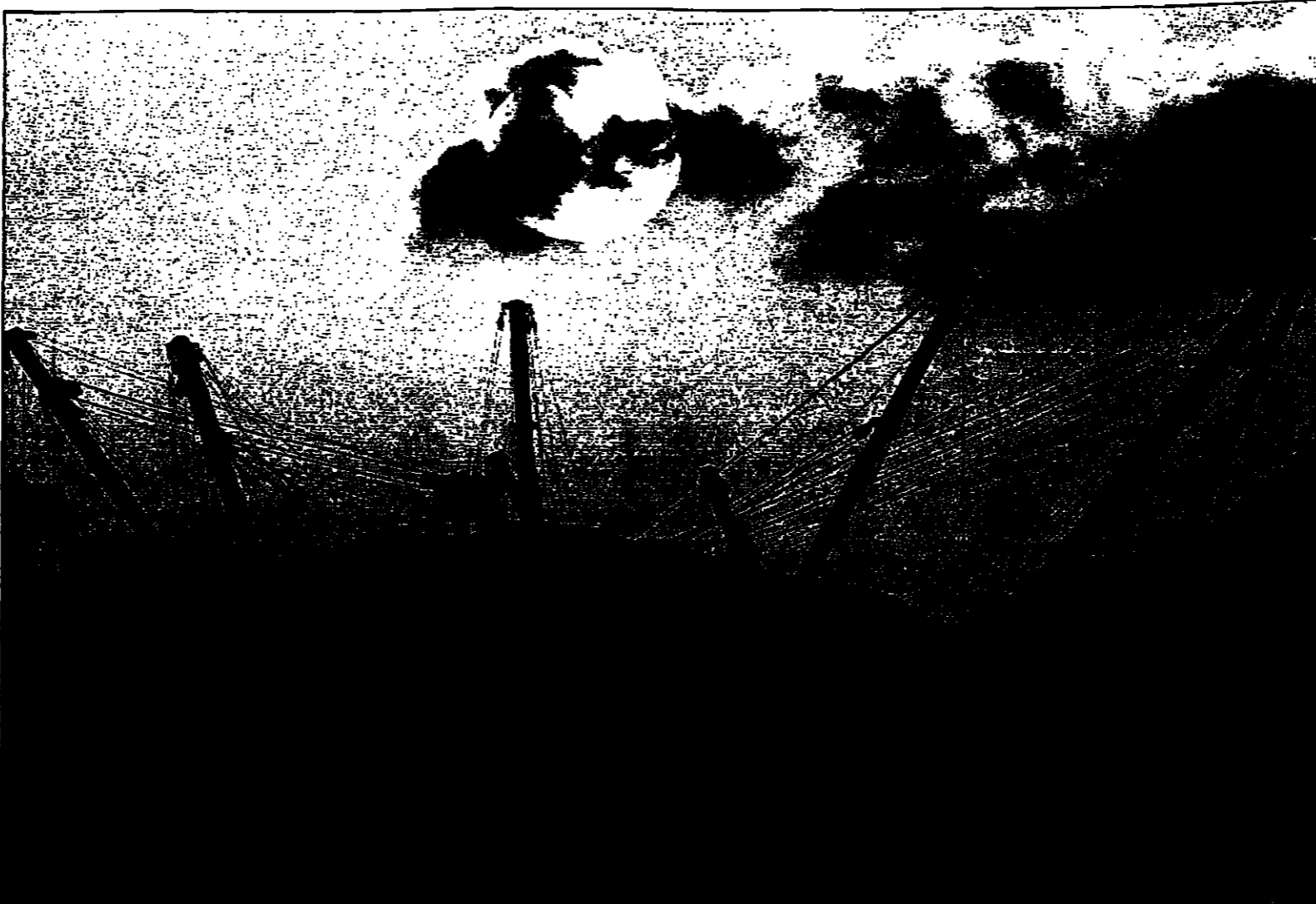
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Commitment to free trade is undimmed



Fifty years after the creation of Gatt, Margaret Beckett says the fight against protectionism is still crucial

This week the Prime Minister and I will be in Geneva to celebrate the 50th anniversary of one of the greatest achievements of the postwar era: the creation of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt). The postwar Labour Government had a vision for Britain. They created the National Health Service and built the welfare state. But they also understood that this would come to nothing without a way to prevent the slump and crushing unemployment which characterised the 1930s. The need to create jobs, prosperity and growth and recognition of the vital role of trade in meeting those objectives led us naturally to an open trade policy and to support for the creation of what was the Gatt and is now the World Trade Organisation (WTO). The global trade landscape has changed dramatically since the 1940s. Successive trade negotiations (or "Rounds") have progressively brought down barriers to trade in goods. Tariffs on industrial goods have fallen from an average of 40 per cent to 4 per cent. The volume of industrial trade has gone up 16 fold. Hand in hand with the growth in trade over the past 50 years has been an enormous growth in living standards - and in working conditions. Issues such as



The global trade landscape has changed dramatically since the 1940s. Advocates of free trade say liberalisation should improve standards

The needs and concerns of developing countries and provide technical assistance to ensure commitments are met on time. The Least Developed Countries require special attention. We must seek to bind tariffs for their exports at zero. We will also look forward. We are already committed to negotiations on agriculture and services beginning from 2000. The potential gains from liberalisation in these areas are huge. Current levels of agricultural support and protection are inefficient and expensive, costing every person in the EU up to £200 a year. On services, while a great deal was accomplished in the Uruguay Round, and in the subsequent liberalisation negotiations in telecommunications, a 25 per cent cut in the barriers protecting services, according to one study, could have tripled the gains from the Uruguay Round tariff cuts. Within the EU, we believe the best prospects for success will be within comprehensive negotiations or a new Round. This will allow WTO members to balance trade gains and concessions across a broad front. At this year's conference, we are pushing for agreement to set in train wide-ranging groundwork, covering all potential areas for future negotiation, so that we are ready to take the decisions necessary to move ahead swiftly at the

conference in 1999. We must do all we can to make progress quickly in three or five years, rather than the seven to ten years of earlier Rounds. The recent financial turmoil suffered in Asia, and the falls in the Asian exchange rates, pose challenges for the multilateral trading system. Although the effects are manageable, protectionist sentiments could be triggered in those markets which experience an increase in imports from Asian countries. Protectionism has a superficial attraction especially at times of crisis or when jobs are under threat. But history shows that protectionism does not pay. Consumers suffer through higher prices and less choice. Industry, if denied the stimulus of outside competition, tends to stagnate and decline. Protection also encourages retaliation against other industries which themselves enjoy a competitive edge. And protectionism holds back exporters. High tariffs on imports effectively pose a tax on exports by pushing up the price of imported materials and components. In the 1980s suppliers of semi-conductors faced high tariffs on their imports to the EU. Those tariffs in turn damaged the competitiveness of the EU's developing computer industry through higher costs. Thankfully sense has prevailed. Throughout the 1990s we have worked successfully to bring down tariffs on IT products, culminating in the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) reached last year which eliminated tariffs in over 90 per cent of the \$600 billion world trade in IT products. But the message is clear: protectionism has all the hallmarks of a negative-sum game. That is why we must encourage all WTO members this week to pledge themselves to resist protectionism, keep markets open and press ahead with multilateral liberalisation.

Fifty years on, our commitment to the multilateral trading system and free trade remains undimmed. Trade is a part of the British tradition and a key part of our future. It is a powerful engine for growth which increases prosperity and raises living standards across the globe. As we enter the next millennium, we must continue to reap the benefits for future generations. The author is President of the Board of Trade

Table with multiple columns listing various companies, their share prices, and other financial data.

The key to a successful business is how you position yourself.

Advertisement for British Airways featuring the Club World Cradle Seat and the slogan 'The world's favourite airline'.

Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, partially obscured and containing phrases like 'BA tightlip rumoured departure o' and 'Chadlington's'.

Irish move centre-stage as Europe's tigers

This week's referendum on the Good Friday peace agreement surely dwarfs in importance any economic development. But alongside the tantalising prospects for peace, the Irish Republic is about to move centre-stage in an altogether different capacity — as a testing ground for the euro.

Forget the leprechauns. Ireland is Europe's "tiger". Last year, she enjoyed an expansion which makes the Lawson boom look like a damp squib. The economy grew by 10½ per cent, faster even than China. Nor are these figures a statistical mirage. In Dublin, the signs of a booming economy abound and the mood of confidence is palpable. The Irish Republic's GDP is still only about 6 per cent of the UK's, but this merely reflects her small population. Indeed, on some measures, Irish GDP per head is higher than Britain's. Meanwhile, unemployment has fallen from a peak of 17 per cent in the mid-Eighties to under 10 per cent now, without triggering an increase in inflation, currently at 2½ per cent.

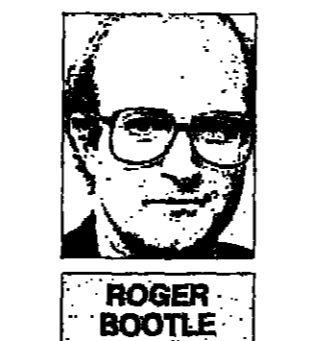
Are there any blackspots? The Irish Republic's public borrowing at one point stood at 15 per cent of GDP, but it is now moving into surplus. True, the ratio of public debt to GDP was 66 per cent last year, but it has been falling fast, and at current rates of economic growth will reach British levels soon.

But can the boom continue? There are two reasons to say yes. First, unemployment is still so high that many more people can be drawn into employment. Moreover, the Republic of Ireland is now enjoying net immigration — both Irish returning home and foreign workers attracted by the boom. There are even jokes about British navvies building Irish roads.

Second, pegging the punt to the mark and then joining the euro may have profoundly altered behaviour. For a small, open economy, like the Irish Republic, there

is a tendency for strong growth to lead to weaker trade performance, which then causes the currency to fall. Since this threatens to increase inflation, the authorities raise interest rates, which eventually halts the expansion. With an "irrevocably" fixed exchange rate, however, this now cannot happen. Correspondingly, workers and managements also know that if they push up wages and prices too far, there can be no relief from a weaker currency. So they are encouraged to moderate increases in wages and prices.

If these factors are dominant, then not only is the Irish Republic set to enjoy several years of strong growth without inflation, but Europe as a whole may be set for a remarkable economic performance. For the Irish Republic is not alone. Spain, Portugal and Greece, and eventually the east European applicants for EU membership, could all be in a



ROGER BOOTLE

similar situation. Meanwhile, with prices now directly comparable across borders, the generally high prices and wages in the prosperous countries of core Europe will be under strong competitive pressure. Accordingly, inflation in the core is also set to remain very low, or even turn negative, thereby allowing lower euro interest rates, hence stimulating recovery across Europe. For

creating sustained economic growth without inflation, the euro could turn into the greatest mechanism known to man.

Before you conclude that I have become a raging Europhile, let me say that there is a fly in the ointment. Although there may be no sign of general inflation in the Irish Republic, over the last year house prices have risen by about 15 per cent and by about 25 per cent in Dublin. Moreover, more than a quarter of house purchases are for "investment". This is happening while official interest rates are just over 6 per cent, with mortgage rates at about 7½ per cent. But Irish rates must converge with the euro by the end of this year. Since euro interest rates will probably be below 4 per cent, at just the point when the Irish economy needs higher interest rates, it will be hit with a reduction in rates of more than 2 per cent. The result is that the property

boom probably has much further to run.

Yet what if it starts to spill over into the wider economy, fuelling a faster rate of inflation? There will be no hope of Ireland's situation influencing the deliberations of the European Central Bank in Frankfurt. She accounts for only about 1 per cent of Euroland's GDP. So, unless the Irish government can bring itself to raise taxes sharply, the inflationary process will eventually be stopped only when Irish prices and wages have become sufficiently uncompetitive that she loses business. The slow-down could well prompt a property market collapse, leading to recession.

When sterling left the ERM in September 1992, the Irish Republic initially resisted the temptation to follow, arguing that there was nothing wrong with the punt/mark exchange rate. But the trouble was that there was now

something severely wrong with the punt/sterling exchange rate, which governed the Irish Republic's still hugely important trade with the UK. Five months later, the punt succumbed.

But now, of course, there is no chance of keeping in step with sterling. Accordingly, if the boom does turn to bust, the Irish must hope that at that point sterling is strong against the euro. The Irish nightmare is that a property collapse and domestic recession coincide with weak sterling. Irish exports would be devastated and a slump would follow.

Of course, the Irish Republic could seek relief from the European Union, which has transferred enormous sums to her over the years. But this source of largesse is fast drying up. With EU enlargement, the Republic is set to become a net contributor to the European budget.

It may not be a large economy, but the Irish Republic deserves to be watched intently — both by those buoyed up with hopes for the euro, and by those full of foreboding.

BA tightlipped on rumoured early departure of Ayling

BRITISH AIRWAYS has declined to comment on speculation that its chief executive, Bob Ayling, is poised to take up a senior political post with Tony Blair's government.

Mr Ayling, who has been under pressure since last summer's disruptive strike by BA cabin crew, is well known for having close ties with Labour. He held a joint 50th birthday party last July with Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, is close to Mr Blair and is closely associated with Labour's flagship Millennium Dome project.

The BA chief was said to have been frozen out from Mr Blair's inner circle in the wake of the damaging publicity surrounding the BA dispute. He was a notable omission from the list of businessmen given peerages by the Prime Minister last year. It has now been suggested that he is being lined up for a key post at the Department of Trade and Industry, where he spent 11 years before joining BA in 1985.

Mr Ayling was reportedly asked to head the No 10 policy unit soon after Labour's elec-



Taking flight? There have been suggestions that Bob Ayling will be given a key DTI post

Fear of fresh crisis prompts G8 plea on China currency

G8 LEADERS yesterday urged China not to trigger a fresh economic crisis in Asia by devaluing its currency.

China has so far avoided the worst effects of the region's financial turmoil and has steadfastly maintained that it will not bow to pressure from financial speculators to devalue. Tony Blair said that G8 leaders offered their full support to China's commitment to preserve the value of the yuan.

"We recognise that by not devaluing its currency it has contributed to the process of restoring stability to the region," he said.

Mr Blair added, however, that the G8 was aware that Asia as a whole was still a long way from recovery although "progress is being made".

Rumours have resurfaced in the past week that China could be on the verge of making a devaluation. The speculation prompted nervousness in the Hong Kong markets and forced a temporary rise in the former colony's interest rates to help to protect its own currency, the Hong Kong dollar.

The Governor of the Central Bank of China has insisted, however, that there is no immediate pressure for China to

Chadlington's IPR close to £100 million sale

Interpublic, an American media group which owns the McCann-Erickson advertising agency and financial PR firm Ludgate Communications, is thought to be keen but it is far from certain that it will succeed in securing control of the

London-based company. IPR is committed to finding a partner and, while outright sale is one option, it may be IPR will find an investor to bring stability by taking a large stake in the business.

chairman, promised at the annual meeting in January that the company was looking at a number of options. UN Active Value, the fund manager which specialises in attempting to release value from companies in difficult circum-

HSBC review could spark disposals

HSBC HOLDINGS, the owner of Midland Bank, could sell off unwanted parts of its investment banking operation as the result of a divisional review (Richard Miles writes).

Stephen Green, chairman of HSBC Investment Banking, has been conducting a

Ousted Emap director attacks ABI

THE NON-EXECUTIVE director ousted from the board of Emap last year will tonight attack the Association of British Insurers (ABI) for forfeiting during the affair its right "to take a moral leadership in corporate governance".

Ken Simmonds, professor of marketing and international business at the London Business School, was one of two non-executive directors of Emap, the publishing and radio group, who tried un-

successfully to block planned changes in corporate governance at the company.

The changes to Emap's articles of association — removing the requirement for the publishing group to have five non-executive directors and adding a clause allowing the removal of a director by a 75 per cent majority of the board — were pushed through by Sir John Hoskyns, the Emap chairman, despite significant opposition.

with your business

changes recommended in the articles was to take from shareholders generally any right to express their views on removal of a director, but to give an unpublished commitment to some shareholders that they might have a prior say in any such removal. Mr Simmonds will argue. He will add: "By entering into this sort of arrangement 'off the record', the ABI forfeited its right to take a moral leadership in corporate governance."

Keep in touch

BUSINESS LETTERS

Eurofighter has not lost its first dogfight in international markets

From Mr John Weston

Sir, Your report by Oliver August (Eurofighter loses to F-16 in battle for UAE order, May 13) cannot go unchallenged.

Eurofighter is a fourth generation fighter aircraft designed and ordered by four European nations to meet the perceived threat well into the next century. It is a fast, agile, stealthy weapons system, described by the Royal Air Force as the aircraft that they have always wanted. This has been recognised by the Governments of Britain, Germany, Italy and Spain, which have placed contracts for 620 aircraft.

Eurofighter has not lost its "first dogfight" in international markets. Eurofighter was examined by the UAE because

of its recognised capabilities and superiority, but it became evident in recent months that the aircraft could not meet the UAE definitive in-service date of 2002. Therefore, prices were not submitted to the UAE.

The assertion that Eurofighter needs export orders to be profitable is not true. The current orders for Eurofighter make it profitable now. What export orders for Eurofighter will mean is that the nations and companies who have invested in the aircraft will benefit greatly from any overseas sales. I draw your attention to the achievement of the British Aerospace Hawk in overseas

markets. The original investment of £1 billion by the British Government in the development and acquisition of this trainer aircraft has resulted in exports totalling over £12 billion and a return to the exchequer in levies and taxation of £5 billion.

Eurofighter has provoked keen interest among air forces around the world. It is an air superiority and ground attack aircraft with immense capabilities and, as your report states, it is not matched by the F-16; the two aircraft cannot be compared.

Eurofighter does not have problems with its European customers. They have exam-

ined and re-examined Eurofighter, particularly in the post Cold War scenario, and have concluded that it is the most cost-effective fighter available and value for taxpayers' money. The air forces of the four European customers are also convinced that Eurofighter is the aircraft they need.

Informed commentators are of the same opinion: Eurofighter is a superb aircraft and will be another export success.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WESTON
(Chief Executive Officer),
British Aerospace,
Warwick House, PO Box 87,
Farnborough Aerospace Centre,
Farnborough,
Hampshire, GU14 6YU.

plans and the impact they will have. Each of us will play a big role in their implementation, too, as will be seen in the coming months.

Body Shop was our creation and — although we are determined it will outlive the Roddicks — we are currently an integral part of its future growth. The institutions have

been supportive of the changes we're making, certainly. But the only compulsion has been from the three of us, rather than from outside.

Yours faithfully,
T. GORDON RODDICK,
Chairman.
The Body Shop International,
Watersmead, Littlehampton,
West Sussex, BN17 6LS.

have been booted unceremoniously from our management positions by furious institutions. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Appointing a new chief executive is just one of a number of major strategic changes that we three have devised to take the business strongly forward. We're very excited about these

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GLOBAL TRADE 48 Margaret Beckett celebrates a 50-year milestone

BUSINESS

ROGER BOOTLE 49

Irish Republic becoming a European tiger



BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

MONDAY MAY 18 1998

Government faces legal challenge over insurance policies

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

INSURERS are mounting a legal challenge to the Finance Bill which could land the Government in the European Court of Human Rights.

can be tantamount to tax evasion despite a landmark ruling to the contrary by the House of Lords last year.

Convention on Human Rights. David Heathcoat Amory, Conservative spokesman on financial services and MP for Wells, is to raise the issue in the House of Commons this week.

who bought the policies as a substitute pension plan because working abroad barred them from contributing to UK pensions.

though they do not hold shares they face having to pay the tax. So far the Revenue has refused pleas that they be allowed to change their contracts or switch to less contentious bonds.

lawyer and bondholder who took the Inland Revenue to the House of Lords, said: "It is manifestly unfair. Fairly reasonable bona fide people are being caught up in the battle against tax avoidance."

Court beckons Microsoft as talks collapse

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE US Justice Department and at least 20 states are expected as early as this morning to file anti-trust lawsuits against the Microsoft Corporation after high-stakes negotiations collapsed between Washington and the world's most powerful software company.

try, employing predatory pricing policies and contract restrictions to extend its monopoly, particularly in the area of Internet browsers.

Department, however, said the concessions were merely "cosmetic" and failed to tackle the central complaint against Microsoft. For its part, the company claimed that three of the government's demands were unreasonable.



CLARE SHORT, the International Development Secretary, has achieved what many merchant bankers and institutional investors have failed to do in recent weeks, bringing together Jan Leschly,

chief executive of SmithKline Beecham, left, and Sir Richard Sykes, chairman of Glaxo Wellcome.

The two pharmaceutical chiefs joined Ms Short in launching an international initiative to wipe out

malaria, announced at the G8 summit yesterday. Roll Back Malaria aims to halve deaths from the disease by the year 2010. Sir Richard faces Glaxo shareholders at the group's annual meeting today.

Veto on £7bn benefits shake-up

By JASON NISSE

A SCHEME to cut £7 billion over ten years from the running costs of Britain's social security system has been rejected by the chief executive of the Benefits Agency.

The plan, proposed by a consortium led by EDS, the US computer services group, would have threatened the jobs of a quarter of the 86,000 employees at the agency, which last year distributed £88 billion in social security payments.

The EDS proposal was put before the Benefits Agency earlier this month and was due to be sent to Harriet Hartman, the secretary of state for Social Security.

However, after details of the scheme emerged in The Times and Computer Weekly on Thursday, Peter Mathison, chief executive of the Benefits Agency, wrote to senior staff telling them that the plan had been rejected.

Asda and Kingfisher end talks

By JASON NISSE

TALKS between Asda, the food retailer, and Kingfisher, owner of the Comet, B&Q and Woolworths chains, which might have led to the creation of the UK's second largest retailing group, broke up over the weekend.

number at Asda, have held a series of meetings over the past two weeks. Archie Norman, Asda's chairman and a former finance director at Kingfisher, was instrumental in bringing the two sides together but has not been involved in the talks.

According to an Asda spokeswoman, these were for "exploring ways of working together in the UK". However,

healthcare items in its stores and putting food products and the George clothing range into Woolworth shops on the high street. Asda in particular is keen to counter a move by Tesco to expand its non-food interests.

Unigate joins scramble for Hillsdown elements

By ROBERT COLE CITY CORRESPONDENT

UNIGATE, the milk company, has joined what is becoming an increasingly unseemly scramble for the tasty morsels in Hillsdown Holdings, the food manufacturer.



Buckland: firm opinions

Northern Foods, Unigate's dairy products rival, Danone, the French yoghurt maker, and Geest, the food group, are also in pursuit of Hillsdown's chilled foods side.

WPP sues Reichmann for £17m

WPP, Martin Sorrell's advertising group, is suing Paul Reichmann, the property tycoon behind Olympia & York, for £17 million in a dispute over office space at Canary Wharf (Richard Miles writes).

IN THE MIDDLE OF EVERYWHERE

Advertisement for Corby biscuits, featuring the Corby logo and contact information for live centres.

Pearson favourite to buy publisher

By RAYMOND SNOODY MEDIA EDITOR

PEARSON, the media and information group, emerged last night as favourite to buy Simon & Schuster, the publishing arm of Viacom, in a deal worth more than \$4 billion (£2.5 billion).

News Corporation, parent company of The Times, and Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, the buyout fund.

\$560 million for the general interest or trade divisions. Getting control of Simon & Schuster would make Pearson the largest educational publisher in the world and the aim would be to merge Simon & Schuster's educational publishing divisions with Addison Wesley Longman, the Pearson educational and professional publisher.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and solutions.

- ACROSS: 1 Fulcrum (5), 4 Fetched (7), 8 Kerry town, nr. lakes (9), 9 Period, epoch (3), 10 Actual (4), 11 Country dances (8), 13 Chain for animal (6), 14 Drenched (6), 17 Consummate skill (6), 19 Twin of Jacob (Gen.) (4), 22 Oz bird; EU project (3), 23 Eg house paint; specious excuses (7), 24 Improve appeal of (7), 25 Albrecht --, engraver (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1407: ACROSS: 1 Flaid, 4 Careful, 8 Caption, 9 Floor, 10 Spoil, 11 Plinth, 13 Vienna, 15 Ghetto, 18 Corset, 20 Hopes, 22 Amber, 23 Timpani, 24 Potomac, 25 Rhyne. DOWN: 1 Incisive, 2 Impulse, 3 Drill, 4 Canapé, 5 Raffish, 6 Flout, 7 Lark, 12 Conspire, 14 Nostrum, 16 Topiary, 17 Static, 19 Orbit, 20 Homer, 21 Damp

THE TIMES BOOKSHOP advertisement listing various titles and prices.

Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, including 'Rock sim fly to b the Yes' and '10m miss saved from the nation'.

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